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ESTABLISHED 1887

Twist in Italy: One Leader Not a Suspect

Milan Prosecutor Clears President, but Owner of Soccer Team Implicated

By Alan Cowell
ROME — In a land so steeped in public corruption that no one of any prominence seems safe from whispers of misdoing...

It even touched an aspect of life Thursday that Italians regard as their weekend release — the soccer industry...



HAVOC IN GAZA STRIP — Young Palestinian stone throwers in action during a riot Thursday in the Khan Younis refugee camp...

Poland Today: An Emerging Sense of Stability

By John Darnton
WARSAW — At the corner of Jerolimskie and Marszalkowska, billboards light up the night, burning brightly through the yellowish haze of coal smoke...

Everyone suddenly seems to be in a hurry to serve with a smile, to sell something, to make money. "Everyone's trying to get his Mercedes fast," said Marcin Ziomecki...

textile city that lost its Russian market. And even some Poles whose living standards had dropped precipitously say they would never return to communism...

nine months, and a stalemate had settled in between the government of Wojciech Jaruzelski and the Solidarity labor movement.

Across the street at the foot of the dour Palace of Culture, nicknamed Stalin's Gift, scores of red-and-white kiosks sell everything from pizza to pornography...

Underneath the new wealth is a current of concern over those who are being left behind. Four decades of preaching egalitarianism, even if it was never really practiced...

Privatization Denial Jolts the Government
The Polish parliament defeated a bill Thursday that would have converted 600 state companies into private enterprises at a single stroke.

It is a bit unnerving, bringing to mind Kurt Vonnegut's line about looking up and realizing your high-school class is running the world.



PEACEMAKER — A boy in Dubrava, Bosnia-Herzegovina, had his mind on peace as he collected playmates' toy guns...

Kiosk Clinton Expects No Trade War

WASHINGTON, (Reuters) — President Bill Clinton met Jacques Delors, president of the EC Commission, on Thursday and said he did not expect differences in policies to lead to a trade war.

Woody Allen Claims Victory

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — Woody Allen said Thursday that psychiatrists had cleared him of Mia Farrow's allegation that he sexually abused their adopted 7-year-old daughter.

Business/Finance General Dynamics plans a huge payout

Table with financial data including Dow Jones, Trib Index, and The Dollar exchange rates.

Greek Ship Thwarts Allies, Delivers Gasoline to Serbs

By Michael R. Gordon
WASHINGTON — Serbia has obtained a vast supply of gasoline, substantially undercutting the Western program to use economic sanctions to pressure the Serbs to stop fighting in Bosnia...

The episode is also acutely embarrassing for NATO and the Western European Union, which has sought to enforce the economic embargo on Serbia...

President Bill Clinton only two weeks ago said he would step up enforcement of the sanctions. With the Clinton administration backing away from threats of military action...

The UN and Cambodia: Fading Hopes

By Henry Kamm
PHNOM PENH — With elections two months away, the United Nations effort to bring peace to this ravaged country is falling far short of its goals...

The goals, defined by the Paris Agreement of October 1991, are to achieve a "comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodia conflict," "restore and maintain peace" and "promote national reconciliation."

French Communists Down, but Not Out

By Joseph Fitchett
PARIS — Inside French Communist Party headquarters, ousted molded-concrete foyers and benches stud the monumental foyer. Down a spartan corridor lies the underground conference center...

Judge Us Harshly, Bonn Tells the World

By Marc Fisher
BONN — The German government issued guidelines Thursday instructing its officials at home and diplomats abroad to acknowledge the country's neo-Nazi problems and the damage it has done to the German image.

Germans Cut Interest Rate In Response To Recession

Bundesbank Appears To Believe That Slump Will Be Long and Deep

By Ferdinand Protzman
BONN — The German central bank lowered a key interest rate Thursday in a bid to rekindle European economic growth, tacitly acknowledging that Germany's recession may prove longer and deeper than expected.

Lower interest rates in Germany, however, allow its European trading partners to try and stimulate growth by reducing their key lending rates, which several European nations did Thursday in the aftermath of the Bundesbank's action.

The U.S. stock market took heart from the German cut, with its implications for better economic conditions in Europe and better sales prospects for U.S. companies.

The discount rate is the rate the central bank charges banks for loans. It provides a floor on interest rates since banks set their loan rates just above the discount rate.

Thursday's action comes against a bleak economic backdrop. Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government predicts that Germany's gross national product will contract by 1 percent this year, an estimate that is beginning to look too optimistic.

Despite all the other considerations, the recession in Germany appears to be the primary reason the Bundesbank's policy-setting central bank council lowered the discount rate to 7.5 percent from 8.0 percent on Thursday.

But Yasushi Akashi of Japan, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, said in an interview, "We have not been able to achieve peace and national reconciliation."

Now, the government wants its representatives around the world to accept that their country, because of the Nazi legacy, is seen through a different prism.

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U.S. Acts to Solidify Support for Yeltsin

Russian Foreign Minister Set For Briefings in Washington

By Ann Devroy and Daniel Williams
Washington Post Service
WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton is scheduled to meet Foreign Minister Andrei V. Kozhevnikov next week as both the president and Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher intensify a campaign to build American support behind President Boris N. Yeltsin and his efforts at democratic reform.

Administration officials said Mr. Kozhevnikov will come to Washington to brief Mr. Clinton and Mr. Christopher on Mr. Yeltsin's deteriorating political situation and to make preparations for the Clinton-Yeltsin meeting on April 3 and 4 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Mr. Christopher is to make an address in Chicago on U.S.-Russia policy as part of an effort aimed at building American support for increased aid to Moscow. The president plans a similar, though broader, foreign-policy address before or shortly after the summit meeting, aides said.

Having campaigned as a president who would focus on American economic problems, Mr. Clinton and his team plan to portray the democratic reform of Russia as "an issue that can determine the future of American economic and security policy," an official said. An unstable and threatening Russia would threaten U.S. military spending and to redirect it toward solving domestic problems, officials contend.

But the administration's sense of urgency faces formidable obstacles because U.S. budget constraints limit the potential for substantial assistance to Russia.

Mitterrand Seeks G-7 Summit in Vancouver

By Alan Riding
New York Times Service
PARIS — President Francois Mitterrand of France has proposed that an emergency summit meeting of the Group of Seven industrialized democracies be held to discuss economic aid to Russia at the same time that President Clinton and President Boris N. Yeltsin meet in Vancouver on April 3 and 4.

French government officials said that Mr. Mitterrand had discussed the idea of expanding the U.S.-Russian summit talks in a telephone conversation with President Clinton on Wednesday. The officials said Mr. Clinton had agreed to consider the suggestion.

Mr. Mitterrand, who first called for an emergency G-7 meeting when he discussed the Russian crisis with Mr. Clinton at the White House last week, reportedly came away from talks with Mr. Yeltsin in the Kremlin on Tuesday deeply alarmed by the new threats to Russian democracy.

After a cabinet meeting on Wednesday, a government spokesman quoted Foreign Minister Roland Dumas as saying that "the summit meeting between Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Clinton could be expanded to other members of the G-7 or be followed by a G-7 meeting fairly quickly."

Up to now the idea of expanding the Clinton-Yeltsin meeting had only been backed by Canada.

On June 11th, the IHT will publish a Special Report on

Aviation

- Among the topics to be covered are:
- Competition — opening up the EC's air transport market
 - Shakeup in the defense industry
 - Strategies for beating the recession
 - Already overcrowded European hubs
 - Impact of competition in the long-haul market

This Special Report coincides with the Paris Air Show (June 11-20) with bonus distribution. For advertising information, please contact Juanita Caspari in Paris at: (33-1) 46 37 93 76.

Herald Tribune



Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader, on Thursday, inspecting a Sukhumi area that was destroyed by separatists' shelling.

Georgia Is Provoking an Attack, Russia Asserts

MOSCOW — Russia's military accused Georgian troops on Thursday of attacking its facilities in the southern state to try to draw Moscow into the battle over the separatist region of Abkhazia.

"If illegal actions against Russian facilities continue, Russian troops will resolutely take all necessary steps including use of force to stop any provocations," Russia's Defense Ministry said.

The ministry statement heightened the countries' war of words over Abkhazia, a Black Sea coastal region whose Muslim minority has been battling for greater autonomy from Georgia since summer.

The Defense Ministry said five civilians were killed and eight wounded on Wednesday in an attack on a military sanatorium in the Abkhazian capital, Sukhumi, and another against a military laboratory in nearby Eschera.

Sukhumi is held by Georgian troops, and Eschera is controlled by Abkhazian forces. Moscow officials insisted that thousands of Russian soldiers still in Georgia were neutral, although they acknowledge that they have fired in self-defense. Georgia asserts that the Russians have armed and aided the Abkhazian separatists.

The Georgian leader, Eduard A. Shevardnadze, this week described the warfare as a "Russian-Georgian" conflict and said he may order a full military mobilization if the fighting continued. He asked for a one-on-one meeting with President Boris N. Yeltsin.

"Thousands of Russian citizens — mercenaries and regular army men — are directly involved in military hostilities against Georgia," said Mr. Shevardnadze, a former Soviet foreign minister.

Abkhazian separatists said Wednesday they had halted an offensive against Sukhumi after four days of fighting that took hundreds of lives. They reportedly pulled back to bases over the Gumista River.

The Georgian Defense Ministry said that Abkhazian forces repeatedly tried to cross the river early Thursday but were repulsed by Georgian shelling, the Interfax news agency reported.

Bosnian Serbs Move to Cut Routes From Sarajevo

another day food convoys headed for eastern and central Bosnia, including one carrying food, clothing and medical supplies desperately needed in Sarajevo. UN officials in Sarajevo reported that 16 people awaiting evacuation from the besieged town died overnight from their wounds.

Observers said it seemed unlikely that the leader of the Bosnian Serbs, Radovan Karadzic, would yield to international diplomatic pressure to sign the UN-sponsored peace agreement for Bosnia until the outcome of this latest offensive in Sarajevo and in eastern Bosnia was known.

The Serbs in Sarajevo are facing a major problem in their efforts to create a viable sector under their control for the postwar period. Muslim officials say the Serbs want to divide Sarajevo into three ethnically based sectors. But the Serbs only control a patchwork of separatist city suburbs and one central district.

The Bosnian president suspended his participation in the peace talks Thursday, saying he could not be involved while Serbs continued their offensive in eastern Bosnia and Sarajevo, Reuters reported from the United Nations, New York.

[President Alija Izetbegovic, a Muslim, who arrived in New York late Wednesday, said his meeting with the mediators, Cyrus R. Vance and Lord Owen, was very short because of the "bad news" from Bosnia that made it impossible to continue talks. He added: "That doesn't mean we interrupt the negotiations. We are staying in our hotel, and we are waiting that Serbs stop killing the people."]

By mid-afternoon in Sarajevo, 37 civilians were reported wounded, including the total since Monday to 11 dead and 130 wounded. Bosnian Serb forces delayed for

the attempt Thursday to get a relief supply convoy of 14 trucks through to Srebrenica failed amid reports that the town's inhabitants were now "fighting to the death" to get to what little food is being dropped there by U.S. aircraft. The last ground delivery of relief supplies was Dec. 10.

The latest Serbian condition for allowing the convoy through was that it not be accompanied by a UN military escort, as has been the general practice for all others. The UN Protection Force commander in Bosnia, General Philippe Morillon, ordered the convoy to go forward Thursday morning accompanied by five armored personnel carriers anyway.

But local Serb commanders blocked it at a bridge between Bratunac and Srebrenica, saying that they had received no instructions from their superiors to let it through.

This has often been the Serbian pretext for stopping convoys in the past.

owned ships is still a major problem for the West. The United States is planning to bar companies that repeatedly violate the embargo from doing business with the United States, but has not yet done so.

Meanwhile, the Bosnian vice president, Zlatko Lagumdzija, criticized Defense Secretary Les Aspin at a press conference in Washington for suggesting that the United States would send peacekeeping troops to Bosnia.

The Bosnian official said that his government was asking Washington for a guarantee that U.S. troops would be deployed immediately after a peace settlement and would use force if necessary to ensure that heavy weapons were taken out of service.

Mr. Aspin's comments run counter to the planning being done at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, suggesting that there is disarray within the Clinton administration on the issue.

WORLD BRIEFS

Tehran Denies Report of Fatal Blast

NICOSIA (AP) — Tehran on Thursday denied an opposition report that a bomb had exploded at the residence of Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei, killing 20 people.

The official press agency, IRNA, quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying the report was "fabricated and politically motivated."

Tehran radio carried an interview with Ayatollah Khamenei that it said was conducted Thursday. In his remarks, devoted to urging Iranians to take part in demonstrations on Friday to express solidarity with Palestinians, the ayatollah did not mention the reported blast.

Mobutu Names Rival Prime Minister

KINSHASA, Zaire (Reuters) — Zaire had two rival prime ministers on Thursday after President Mobutu Sese Seko carried out his threat to dump the pro-opposition prime minister, Etienne Tshisekedi.

A "political convulsion," convened by Marshal Mobutu but boycotted by the Sacred Union opposition alliance, named Faustin Birindwa as prime minister on Wednesday. Mr. Birindwa, a Tshisekedi aide until last month, met Marshal Mobutu on Thursday to discuss his cabinet.

The appointment was a direct challenge to Mr. Tshisekedi, who was dismissed by Marshal Mobutu in December but refused to accept the president's authority. His stand was backed by a majority of Zaire's interim parliament, the High Council of the Republic, and by the governments of the United States, Belgium and France.

Gunmen in Costa Rica Agree to Talks

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP) — Three gunmen entrenched in the Nicaraguan Embassy agreed Thursday to release five of 16 people they were holding hostage and resume talks to end the standoff.

"After the first meeting, we will release five hostages," the Nicaraguan gunmen said in a statement read to reporters. The men said they would put all their weapons in one room, which would be guarded by Roman Arias Villalobos, the Roman Catholic archbishop of San Jose.

The five hostages would then be released after the first round of negotiations, the gunmen said. The statement did not say when the talks would begin. The gunmen, led by a Nicaraguan-born dissident, José Urbina Lara, stormed the embassy on March 8, demanding \$6 million and changes in the government of the Nicaraguan president, Violeta Barrios de Chamorro.

Bonn Gets Bigger Say on Maneuvers

BONN (Reuters) — The United States and its allies signed an accord Thursday giving Germany greater power over Western forces stationed on its territory, including limits on maneuvers.

U.S. officials said the agreement, which should take effect late this year after approval by Bonn and six other governments, reflected Germany's return to full sovereignty after its reunification.

The accord, worked out in 16 months of talks, puts limits on ground and air maneuvers, a long-standing demand of Germans living near test ranges. But experts said the most drastic change in everyday life would probably involve drivers' licenses. Military-issued ones will no longer be allowed, meaning that service members and their families will have to get their licenses at home or from German civilian authorities.

U.S. Tries to Settle Somali Clan Feud

KISMAYU, Somalia (Reuters) — A U.S. quick-reaction force of 500 troops arrived Thursday in Kismayu to restore order in the southern Somali port and investigate clan fighting that has derailed national reconciliation talks.

Army Brigadier-General Greg Gile, commander of the force, said the reinforcement would bolster Belgian and U.S. troops already in the city and would send "a message to the warlords that fighting is not the way to solve the conflict."

India Arrests 2 in Bombay Bombings

BOMBAY (Reuters) — Indian police arrested two men on Thursday who they say planted two of the bombs that exploded in a coordinated blitz in Bombay last week.

The police said the men were hired by a drugs smuggler whose motive was to spread chaos. The Bombay police chief, Amayee Singh Samra, said one of the men drove a jeep packed with explosives to a market in central Bombay and the other parked a hobby-tripped motorcycle in the city's jewelry market.

The resulting explosions were among 13 bomb blasts that ripped through the city, India's commercial capital, in a two-hour period last Friday, killing at least 250 people and wounding 1,200. Mr. Samra said the two men, whom he did not identify, were hired by Ibrahim Abdul Razaq Memon, a drug smuggler, and his family.

TRAVEL UPDATE

At least three luxury hotels in Bombay are installing metal detectors, and some are planning other measures to revive tourist confidence in the city following bombings last week that killed nearly 300 people. (AFP)

Rioting engulfed the Zambian capital, Lusaka, on Thursday, bringing business to a halt before police ringed off the city and restored control. Although the reason behind the riots was not immediately clear, the rioters looted several shops and stoned cars, severely damaging six. (AFP)

GERMANS: FRANCE: Communists Are Down but Not Yet Out

FRANCE: Communists Are Down but Not Yet Out

(Continued from page 1)

tee member responsible for international affairs.

Despite the party's current unpopularity, poll-takers find that one-third of French can imagine themselves voting Communist in some circumstances, he said. In the 25-to-35 age bracket — crucial if the party is to have a future — as many as 40 percent say they could potentially vote for a Communist, the party's data show.

Currently, the strain of protest mixed with utopianism in French politics is benefiting the ecologists, not the Communists. But Mr. Cirera, without explicitly dismissing the ecologists as a symptom of French yuppiedom, emphasized the Communists' credentials as the real spokesmen for one side in a country that has divided along left-right lines for generations.

"A vote of 8 percent for the Communists has much more serious impact than a 15 percent vote for the Greens," he said.

But the historical strength of the party, which Mr. Cirera and other cadres hope will enable the Communists to survive, also is a crushing weight on their prospects.

Their dilemma is symbolized by the headquarters building in which Mr. Cirera was interviewed: No other political party has ever built its own permanent headquarters, so it is too important to abandon. Yet, the forbidding-looking building, nicknamed "the bunker" by Parisians, intimidates outsiders, reminding them of a past that the party would like to live down.

A black glass moonlight, curved to suggest the hammer-and-sickle insignia, the building was erected in the mid-1960s when events still buoyed Marxism. Designed by Oscar Niemeyer — the Lenin prize-winning architect who also built Brazil's capital — the building was constructed with sunken entrances that can be easily sealed off against mob attack.

Beyond its fading electoral fortunes, the party is reportedly losing members, even if the numbers are not disclosed, and greying because of the lack of young recruits.

The party newspaper, Humanité, has shrunk to a thin tabloid, and there are no militants to hawk it in the streets of working-class neighborhoods. Its circulation is now around 50,000 compared with about 150,000 in the 1980s.

Communists have even been voted out in an arena where their expertise counted — the semi-official councils, known as Prud'hommes, elected by workers to handle labor arbitration. The Communist trade union, the CGT, has lost its hold on workers, even in state-owned companies and services.

Despite these deep problems, the Communist Party has historic strengths.

"What other political party puts out a daily newspaper at all?" Mr. Cirera pointed out.

Unlike other European Communist parties, the French Communists have not changed the party's name or split. They doggedly dispute the mounting evidence of subterranean ties with Moscow.

For funds, the party can still draw subsidies from hundreds of local governments under their control.

Even though French Communists feel that they have weathered the international blows better than their brothers in other European

GERMANS: Judge Us Harshly

GERMANS: Judge Us Harshly

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correspondents in Germany, with offers of upcoming versions in three foreign languages.

Anti-foreigner violence, said Henning Wegener, director of the government press office's foreign department, "without doubt has considerably injured the image of Germany."

When a group of Jewish-American business and professional leaders from B'nai B'rith met with German Economics Minister Günter Rexrodt on Thursday, Mr. Rexrodt's aides had the new handbook with them and referred often to it.

The new Bonn drive to address foreign concern about neo-Nazi violence and about the increasing voter support for the extremist Republican Party includes a series of invitations to U.S. business, political and professional groups.

The B'nai B'rith tour, the first time the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce has sponsored a visit by a Jewish-American group, illustrated the attention Bonn is giving to relaying its message. The U.S. group met with the most senior officials of the German trade union movement, industry and government, who described tougher criminal laws, increased police surveillance and new school programs designed to crack down on neo-Nazis and discourage young Germans from drifting to extremist groups.

Most of the Germans explained the support for far-right parties seen in recent state elections as a cry of protest from a population upset by the crisis of German reunification and frustrated by a seeming political stalemate in Bonn.

Study Takes Stock Of German Violence

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(Continued from page 1)

democracy in West Germany and the goodwill sparked off by German unification.

It added: "In many countries, the racist wave recalled parallels to the Weimar Republic and the Nazi era. If this image is confirmed or strengthened, there is a danger of permanent damage to Germany's fragile reputation."

At the same time, it said, the current situation is not as serious as in the Weimar Republic, when internal chaos paved the way for Hitler to take power.

"There is no reason to compare the situation in post-unification Germany with that of the Weimar Republic," it said.

■ Has Racism Cooled? Stephen Kinzer of The New York Times reported from Weimar, Germany.

Officials who deal with foreigners' problems in Germany say they believe that racist sentiment has sharply declined in recent months. Their conclusion was supported by new statistics showing that attacks on foreigners are now far less frequent than they were last year.

"A year ago, even six months ago, it seemed that our society was paralyzed by violence," Cornelia Schmalz-Jacobson, the government's chief adviser on foreigners, told reporters in Weimar.

"We can't say the problem is behind us," she added, "but we can breathe a sigh of relief."

Mrs. Schmalz-Jacobson attributed the change in attitude partly to the candlelight vigils held in many

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FIRST 100 DAYS / A DEMOCRATIC COMPROMISE

POLITICAL NOTES

Some Guests Weren't Laughing

WASHINGTON — Several speakers at a Republican dinner in Virginia, including Oliver L. North, made jokes at the expense of homosexuals or blacks, leading a local homosexual group and the NAACP to demand apologies.

Several of the comments targeted President Bill Clinton's plan to allow homosexuals in the military. The jokes led to gasps of surprise and uncomfortable groans from some in the audience.

Colonel North, who is considering a campaign for the U.S. Senate from Virginia, pretended to be a hissing homosexual caller to the White House. Charles Black, a political consultant who was a former chairman of the national party, said Mr. Clinton wanted the Marine Corps hymn to include the lyrics, "Don't we now our gay appeal?"

State Senator Warren E. Barry, of Fairfax, Virginia, who is white, referred to the 14th Street bridge linking Northern Virginia with the majority-black District of Columbia as the "Soul Brothers' Causeway."

The remarks were made at a black-tie roast honoring a former Virginia congressman, Stan Parris. Some of the 250 guests said they thought some of the comments went too far.

A political analyst said such remarks fueled the perception, encouraged by last year's Republican National Convention, that the party was intolerant of minorities. "These are the kinds of examples that, in fact, can help create the image that Republicans are losing ground now and losing touch," said W. Avon Drake, head of the African American Studies Department at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Some of the speakers said that the roast was supposed to be funny, and none offered an apology.

Pentagon Spokesman Joins NBC

WASHINGTON — Pete Williams, the Pentagon spokesman whose press briefings were broadcast worldwide during the Gulf War, has signed with NBC News as a national correspondent, based in the Washington bureau.

Mr. Williams, 41, worked from 1976 to 1985 at an NBC station in Casper, Wyoming, as an anchor, reporter and news director. The next year he became press secretary and legislative assistant to then-Representative Dick Cheney, Republican of Wyoming. He subsequently joined Defense Secretary Cheney as assistant secretary for public affairs in 1989.

The NBC bureau chief, Tim Russert, said that Mr. Williams would cover a wide range of subjects, but not the Pentagon.

Gnatcatcher's Future Is Up In Air

LOS ANGELES — The Fish and Wildlife Service missed a deadline to decide whether to list a songbird called the California gnatcatcher as endangered, taking no action for now in a case that has emerged as a symbol of the Clinton administration's efforts to deal with threatened and endangered species without hindering economic growth.

The delay is expected to be only a short one to allow the new secretary of interior, Bruce Babbitt, to study the issue further. The organization that petitioned to list the bird, the Natural Resources Defense Council, said it would not sue for now.

The gnatcatcher inhabits 200,000 acres (81,000 hectares) of prime housing land in Southern California, and developers say thousands of jobs would be threatened by an endangered listing, which would have forced federal officials to start devising a plan to save the bird by protecting its habitat. The administration hopes California officials, developers and environmentalists can instead find a compromise that would leave enough land to ensure the bird's survival but allow some development.

Quote/Unquote

Dr. David Pearle, Defense Secretary Les Aspin's cardiologist, after a two-hour operation in Washington on Thursday to implant a pacemaker to correct Mr. Aspin's worsening heart condition: "Everything went fine."

Senate Agrees to Make Voter Registration Easier

By Helen Dewar
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Senate has approved legislation to ease voter-registration rules after a Republican filibuster forced Democrats to abandon a hotly contested provision requiring registration at welfare and unemployment offices.

While Democrats argued that the provision would encourage participation in elections by low-income or jobless people, Republicans argued publicly that it could lead to coercion by public officials and complained privately that it probably would lead to registration of more Democrats.

The long-stalled "motor voter" bill, which would require states to allow people to register by mail or when they apply for a driver's

license, was approved, 63 to 37, with five Republicans joining all Democrats in voting for the measure.

But Democrats, unable to end two weeks of delaying tactics by Republicans without conceding to some of their demands, had to drop requirements for registration at welfare and unemployment offices as the price for passing the bill and putting it on track for virtually certain enactment.

The Democrats also had to agree to make a "good-faith effort" to get the House, which has approved a similar bill to drop registration by social-service offices, although they stopped short of agreeing to hold up final approval of the measure if the House balked. Representative John Conyers Jr., Democrat of Michigan and sponsor of the bill in the

House, said he would insist on keeping registration of voters at these offices optional rather than mandatory, although offices that serve disabled persons would have to provide registration services. Under a Republican amendment, military recruiting offices also would have to register voters.

"I regret we had to make these changes but it was necessary," the Senate majority leader, George J. Mitchell, Democrat of Maine, told the Senate after the vote.

At a news conference later, Mr. Mitchell described the Republican maneuver as "cruel" and said the opposition of most Republicans to the bill demonstrated an "abject

acknowledgment that they don't have enough confidence in their candidates and message" to support a broadening of the electorate.

Republicans, who lack the votes to pass their own legislation but can stall Democratic initiatives if they hold ranks, had used the motor-voter bill to show the Democrats they must deal with them, especially on bills with a political impact.

The bill, which would take effect in 1995, would not prohibit more far-reaching easing of voter registration rules by states. More than half the states and the District of Columbia have imposed motor-voter or mail-registration procedures or both.

A federal voting assistance official said the bill would have no effect on Americans who reside overseas.

Possible Ringleader Of N.Y. Tower Blast May Be in Pakistan

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — A fourth suspect, described as a possible ringleader of the World Trade Center bombing, has disappeared overseas and may have fled to Pakistan, federal law-enforcement officials said.

They said Pakistani authorities had not been particularly helpful in the search, but the Pakistan Embassy in Washington condemned the attack and promised full cooperation in the investigation, including extradition of any suspect.

Meanwhile, tenants began returning to one of the trade center towers on Thursday, officials of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey said. The second tower may begin to reopen next week.

The Port Authority, which operates the trade center complex, said crews had been installing new security systems and cleaning up layers of soot from the towers since the Feb. 26 explosion in a parking garage under the towers.

Federal indictments were announced Wednesday against three suspects arrested earlier. Two — Mohammed A. Salameh, 25, an il-

legal alien of Palestinian origin, and Nidal A. Ayyad, 25, a Kuwait-born chemical engineer — were charged with damaging the twin tower complex "by use of an explosive device, causing the death of six persons."

The third suspect, Ibrahim A. Elgabrowny, 42, an Egyptian-born contractor, was charged by a federal grand jury with obstructing justice by scuffling with officers arresting him on March 4.

Port Authority officials said that Mr. Elgabrowny had been at the trade center for construction seminars in the fall of 1991 and in December 1992 — information that is now under investigation by the FBI. Looking into the reported coincidence, investigators are trying to determine whether during the bombing visit Mr. Elgabrowny was in the garage area near where the car-bomb exploded.

Senior law-enforcement officials have identified the missing fourth suspect as Mahmud Abouhalima, 33, an Egyptian-born taxi driver who listed his residence as Munich and lived in recent years in Brooklyn. An associate of Mr. Salameh's, he disappeared shortly after the bombing, the officials said.

One leading investigator said that most investigators in the case would identify Mr. Abouhalima as the ringleader.

Meanwhile, the fundamentalist cleric whose disciples have been arrested in connection with the bombing said in an interview published Thursday that he was religiously bound to refrain from breaking U.S. laws.

In the interview with the London-based, Lebanese-run Al Hayat newspaper, Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman denied any involvement in the bombing.

He said he had a right to call from within the United States for the overthrow of President Hosni Mubarak's Egyptian government.

"I wish to continue my struggle against the Egyptian regime from the United States," Sheikh Abdel Rahman said. "Consequently, it's irrational for me to carry out an attack that would strip me from that freedom."

Sheikh Abdel Rahman, who preaches at a New Jersey mosque, was ordered deported on Wednesday by a U.S. immigration judge. The Immigration and Naturalization Service said that the sheikh did not disclose to immigration officials that he was a polygamist, and that he had been convicted of falsifying a check in Egypt in 1987.

His lawyers have said the 54-year-old sheikh would appeal the deportation order.

A Brooklyn man familiar with Sheikh Abdel Rahman and his circle, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, has told investigators that Mr. Abouhalima had been a driver and personal assistant to the sheikh during the six to seven months that the cleric lived in the New York borough of Brooklyn after his 1990 arrival in the United States.

A law-enforcement official said that based on information he declined to detail, Mr. Abouhalima was thought to have fled to Pakistan, perhaps to the same area suspected as the refuge of a suspect sought in the shooting deaths of two employees of the Central Intelligence Agency outside the headquarters in Langley, Virginia, in January.

Pressure Mounts on FBI Chief Sessions Wanted to Face Down Cultist 'Texan to Texan'

By David Johnston
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Senior Clinton administration officials have concluded that William S. Sessions, the director of the FBI, has lost support at the White House, the Justice Department, his own agency and Congress, and stands little chance of keeping his job.

A scathing internal report on Mr. Sessions' use of official perquisites issued in January badly wounded the head of the bureau. The finding of ethical lapses was made by an internal ethics unit and was adopted by William P. Barr, the attorney general under President George Bush.

Clinton aides said ethical issues still remained a consideration in determining Mr. Sessions' future, but that the review had also led to a broader re-examination of whether Mr. Sessions could manage the law-enforcement agency.

Senior officials, including Justice Department and White House aides who had previously taken no position about Mr. Sessions, have determined that he no longer has the confidence of the career managers who run the bureau on a day-to-day basis. They have also concluded that his deteriorating relationship with top deputies could prove as damaging as the findings of ethical laxity for a law-enforcement official whose office symbolizes strict adherence to high standards of conduct.

Some administration officials were especially concerned about Mr. Sessions' judgment after he offered recently to fly to his home state of Texas in an attempt to negotiate an end to an armed standoff in Waco between members of a religious cult and federal agents.

Such conclusions, along with Mr. Sessions' own defense of his actions, are being presented to Attorney General Janet Reno, who has been charged with reviewing his tenure and recommending to President Bill Clinton whether the FBI director should remain in his job.

Only the president has the power to dismiss the

FBI director. Under a law enacted in reaction to abuses in the nearly five decades when J. Edgar Hoover was director, the head of the bureau now serves a single 10-year term. The law is intended to give the office political independence and at the same time to limit a director's tenure.

With Ms. Reno having committed the administration to deciding soon about retaining Mr. Sessions, the decision-making process has seemed to accelerate and corridors at the bureau's headquarters are awash with speculation about his future. Some officials expect a decision in days.

But other officials said that Ms. Reno and the White House might not rush a decision on Mr. Sessions, despite her public comments last week that the issue would be among her top priorities as the head of the Justice Department, which supervises the bureau.

An event that seemed to solidify the Clinton administration's misgivings about Mr. Sessions was his proposal to fly to Texas earlier this month to coax the leader of the cult, David Koresh, out of his rural compound.

Law-enforcement officials recounted a difficult daylong series of discussions over the plan as an almost surreal moment in an otherwise deadly serious confrontation. They said Mr. Sessions, who went to college and practiced law in Waco in the 1950s and 1960s, wanted to confront Mr. Koresh "Texan to Texan," as one official put it, in a High Noon-style negotiating showdown.

With an aircraft preparing to take him to Texas on March 6, Mr. Sessions was finally dissuaded from his plan after aides said it would disrupt existing negotiations and set a dangerous precedent.

His decision came after the acting attorney general, Stuart M. Gerson, alerted the White House and intervened to block a proposal that some bureau officials regarded as an ill-conceived attempt by Mr. Sessions to end the siege and salvage his position as the FBI director.

Agent Shot by Cult Sues Newspaper

New York Times Service

WACO, Texas — A federal agent wounded in the Feb. 28 shoot-out with a religious cult has filed a lawsuit against a local newspaper, asserting that it had alerted members of the group to the impending raid.

The agent from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, John T. Risenhoover, is claiming damages for hospital costs and mental anguish. Mr. Risenhoover, 29, was shot twice in the ankle and once in the hip.

The agent offered no proof for his assertions in the lawsuit against the newspaper, The Waco Tribune-Herald. Neither he nor his lawyer would identify the person at the newspaper who they said had called the cult's leader, David Koresh, to tell him about the raid.

The editor of The Tribune-Herald, Bob Lott, denied Mr. Risenhoover's accusations. A spokesman for the

firearms bureau said the lawsuit was an independent action.

On the day before the raid, The Tribune-Herald began publication of a series about Mr. Koresh that detailed his hold over cult members, his weapons cache and former cult members' allegations that he was a child abuser.

Bureau officials have said they thought someone informed the group about the raid, which probably contributed to the deaths of four agents and the injuries of 15, including Mr. Risenhoover.

But accounts from other law-enforcement officials suggest that in the hours before the assault began, law-enforcement agents were very active in a nearby staging area, and that word of the activity on police scanners could have warned cult members.



REUNION — A high school student, rescued with 80 classmates after being trapped nearly a week in snow in Tennessee's Great Smoky Mountains, running to her mother on returning home to Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Eleven more hikers were found Thursday. The Tennessee National Guard estimated that 35 campers remained but said it had no way to know for sure.

Away From Politics

While Florida abortion-rights supporters picketed outside the Pensacola courthouse, a public defender entered a plea of not guilty for Michael F. Griffin, 31, who is accused of killing Dr. David Gunn, an abortionist. The defender was appointed until a judge can hold a hearing on whether Mr. Griffin should be granted his request to defend himself, using the Bible as a lawbook.

Tacrine, the first drug proposed to fight Alzheimer's disease, has been found to be of significant help, according to reports given to a Food and Drug Administration advisory panel. The drug was tested at 20 hospitals.

The driver of a gasoline tanker in Florida, stuck on a railroad crossing in bumper-to-bumper traffic, desperately tried to clear the tracks before an Amtrak train slammed into his truck, creating a fireball that killed him and five other motorists.

Fifteen motorists were injured. The 118 train passengers had minor injuries.

A California grand jury has indicted two Long Beach men accused of trying to shoot one of the endangered California condors that had been released into a national forest as part of a \$15 million project to save the birds from extinction. Cesarino Quinteros Campos, 32, and Ricardo Contreras Tirado, 23, were charged with firing a .22-caliber rifle at the bird last summer.

Civil rights leaders are demanding an inquiry into suspicious hangings in Mississippi jails, saying abuses are as bad as in some countries cited for violations by the United Nations. Forty-seven inmates, 24 black, have died by hanging while in the custody of Mississippi law enforcement in the last six years.

Escobar Offers New Surrender Terms

New York Times Service

BOGOTA — The fugitive drug trafficker Pablo Escobar Gaviria has proposed a new set of conditions for his surrender, and Colombia's chief prosecutor said that they were acceptable.

In a message delivered to the Roman Catholic bishop of the city of Bucaramanga by one of Mr. Escobar's lawyers, the drug trafficker said that to avoid being poisoned he wanted private cooking facilities when in prison. He also asked that he be allowed to call family members three times a week and that he be given government protection.

Since his escape from prison last July, Mr. Escobar, the head of the Medellin cocaine trafficking ring, has made repeated attempts to negotiate his surrender, but up to now the authorities have refused all of his offers. Two weeks ago, Mr. Escobar said he would turn himself in if the U.S. government would protect his family, but Washington refused.

After hearing of Mr. Escobar's latest message Wednesday, the chief prosecutor, Gustavo de Greiff said, "I do not see any difficulty in abiding by these requests, not as a concession but as a solution."

But a senior government official sought to dampen expectations that Mr. Escobar's offer would

make his surrender more likely. "Escobar is like a poker player," he said. "He is testing his cards."

The official added that the Colombian government was not seeking Mr. Escobar's surrender and still intended to capture him. "A surrender is a legal instrument and the decision lies with the criminal," he added.

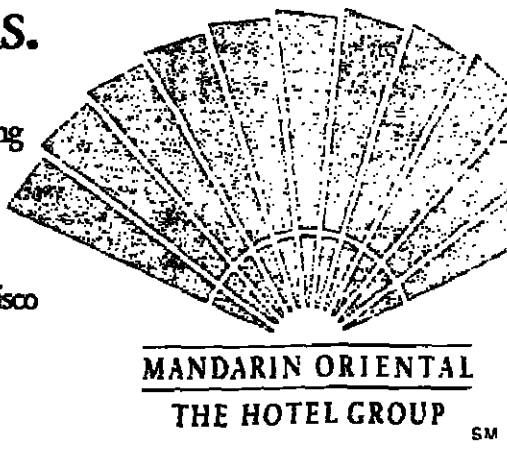
The drug lord's new proposals are modest compared with the conditions he set for his first surrender in 1991 when, among other concessions, he was allowed his choice of security guards.

Since February, Colombia and the United States have been offering a reward of more than \$5 million for information leading to his

capture. Eighteen indictments are pending against Mr. Escobar in Colombia, and courts in the United States have charged him with conspiracy and drug trafficking.

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The Government of Pakistan has embarked upon a motorway construction program that will link the north of the country to the south. The first motorway is scheduled to be completed by 31st December, 1994. In order to meaningfully manage the motorway system, applications are invited for prequalification from organizations capable of operating motorway systems. The areas where their expertise will be required are:

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Polish Parliament Sets Back Move to Privatize Businesses

New York Times Service

In a setback to the Polish government's program of economic reform, the parliament in Warsaw defeated a bill Thursday that would have converted 600 state companies into private enterprises at a single stroke.

The vote against the privatization bill, 203 to 181 with 9 abstentions, seemed to catch Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka by surprise. It revealed a split in the unwieldy coalition of nine parliamentary groupings that she leads and raised questions about the long-term prospects of her government of eight months.

Outside the ornate chamber of the Sejm and appearing speechless, Miss Suchocka called the vote "a serious signal that there's a possibility of abandoning the road of reforms."

But she added: "I do not regard it as a defeat but as a retreat." Neighboring countries such as Hungary and the Czech Republic had undertaken similar programs, she pointed out, and Poland was the only one where a decision to turn away from privatization was made by parliament.

After three years of delays, confusion and wrangling, the bill was

regarded by experts as crucial in Poland's drive to adopt a market economy. It amounted to a wholesale transfer of companies into private hands under a complicated system designed to attract Western managers and directors for at least 10 years.

The idea was to create 20 investment funds to oversee the companies and hold controlling shares in them. The funds would operate somewhat like mutual funds. They would be run initially by Western experts, who would be paid fees in cash depending on the performance of the companies under their jurisdiction. As a means of keeping the equity in Polish hands, shares in the funds would be offered at a low cost to all 27 million adult citizens in Poland.

Eventually, when the program was in full gear and secondary markets created, Poles could own three different kinds of shares in all the trusts combined, in a single trust or directly in the companies themselves.

Recently, the Polish economy was improving and the country was cited in numerous publications as the success story of Eastern Europe. In the last quarter of 1992, the gross national product rose by as

much as 2 percent, despite a drought that devastated agriculture.

The government was shaken by the fact that 11 deputies who belong to the coalition turned against it. Almost all of them came from the Christian Nationals, a party that is one of the major pillars of the coalition along with the Democratic Union, which contains many figures from the Solidarity movement.

The defeat came after a five-hour discussion of 36 amendments, including one, inserted at the insistence of the Christian Nationals, that would have also given shares in the trusts to all Polish children.

One diplomat, noting that Miss Suchocka did not mobilize her forces the way she did last month to pass an austerity budget that was regarded as a significant achievement, said the vote Thursday was "the government's most serious defeat to date."

He noted that legislators traveling abroad had not been called back for the vote and he said that in the confusion in the chamber he saw two supporters of the bill inadvertently pressing the wrong buttons and so casting negative votes.

—JOHN DARTON



Deputy Prime Minister Henryk Goryszewski, top right, reprimanding his party colleagues Thursday for voting against the privatization bill. The measure would have denationalized 600 companies.

Charting Boundary Of South Africa's Nuclear Landscape

By Steve Coll and Paul Taylor
Washington Post Service

VIENNA — Early in August 1992, a team of international nuclear inspectors swooped in a helicopter above a South African Air Force target range in the Kalahari Desert, searching with satellite-linked instruments for a secret site that Soviet and U.S. intelligence officials had for years identified as a possible clandestine nuclear weapons test facility.

The search was one element of a large-scale investigation run by the International Atomic Energy Agency since late 1991, in which inspectors are trying to determine whether South Africa's government has told the full truth about the amount of highly enriched uranium it produced during its 15-year clandestine nuclear program.

Twenty months after the investigation began, agency inspectors have confirmed — with South Africa's unpublicized extensive cooperation — that Pretoria secretly produced and stockpiled enough highly enriched uranium during the 1970s and '80s for 12 to 24 nuclear bombs, officials say.

But some tricky questions remain: What happened to the components of any nuclear warheads South Africa produced? Is the inventory of weapons-grade uranium that South Africa submitted to agency inspectors all that it actually has? What should be done with this bomb material now that South Africa is in the midst of major political change? U.S. officials say they strongly suspect that South Africa has not accounted for all the bomb-grade uranium it produced or for the other nuclear weapons components it amassed and that it may still be hiding some nuclear bomb-related items.

In the Kalahari Desert, the inspectors from the atomic energy agency, the Vienna-based nuclear watchdog, were searching for any evidence that South Africa might have hidden additional nuclear material despite its 1991 declaration that it would forswear atomic weapons and open its nuclear installations to international monitoring.

The team found a concrete-capped shaft leading deep into the earth, according to a Western official. Inspectors dug soil samples for tests designed to detect microscopic residue of a full, partial or failed nuclear bomb test. The tests later turned up traces of natural uranium but no residue associated with a nuclear explosion, the Western official said. The team's conclusion, according to this and other officials, reinforced a long-standing suspicion that South Africa probably built the Kalahari site for a nuclear test but never used it.

The questions about South Africa's nuclear program are politically loaded. The African National Congress, for example, objects to any hasty decision by the white-minority government about the disposal of weapons-grade uranium. But some American and South African officials have been discussing a plan to sell Pretoria's nuclear stockpile to the United States and remove it from South Africa before the black majority takes power under a new constitution.

U.S. officials said the government in Pretoria made the pledge to eliminate its nuclear weapons program largely because white rulers could foresee an eventual transition to black majority rule, greatly reducing the military need for a nuclear arsenal.

The white community has "a very real fear" that the weapons would be misused by the ANC, which is likely to control the government eventually, said an official who has studied the South African program.

The ANC, according to its science policy coordinator, Roger Jarrold, wants all decisions about the disposal of the nuclear stockpile to await the coming to power of an ANC-led government of national unity, which is expected within the year. Mr. Jarrold said any unilateral moves by the government to "cover its tracks" about the kind of nuclear program it had developed. He said the ANC was committed to full disclosure of the history of South Africa's nuclear program, to the "letter and spirit" of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and to the proposition that the continent of Africa should be nuclear-weapon-free.

Yet nervous Western specialists note that during the political transition that accompanied the Soviet breakup, Ukrainian nationalists also said they did not aspire to be a nuclear power. Since gaining power — and control over nuclear assets — they have waved U.S. officials say they want to avoid anything similar in South Africa.

For now, the focus of attention is the agency's investigation into whether Pretoria has been fully honest in disclosing its nuclear assets. So far, inspectors have found no evidence of deception.

Yet they have been unable to resolve certain discrepancies in Pretoria's nuclear accounting. The amount of uranium material fed into two South African enrichment plants does not jibe with the amount of bomb-grade material sent operators of these plants reported producing.

Most officials close to the investigation regard the discrepancies as relatively minor. Although the atomic energy experts to receive additional nuclear records from South Africa, the inventory of South Africa's nuclear program may never be fully resolved.

The main reason is that South

POLAND: After Years of Post-Freedom Turmoil, a Sense of Stability Emerges in a Newly Capitalist Nation

(Continued from page 1)

apartments every two weeks to keep ahead of the secret police and produce the country's underground lifeline, an weekly called Tygodnik Mazowiecki that reached 80,000 people. Now she is a top editor of the most influential daily, Gazeta Wyborcza, which has a staff of 1,300 and a circulation of 800,000.

"It couldn't have turned out better," she said of the transition to democracy, which began when Solidarity reached a power-sharing arrangement with General Jaruzelski in July 1989. "We took power without firing a shot. No one was hurt." She paused to reflect: "Sometimes I still wonder: How did it all happen?"

The other day, four Polish journalists sat around a dinner table debating whether Mr. Walesa would run again for president in three years. Finally one said: "Do you realize we've not been talking about the government falling? Or the danger of an economic collapse? Or an invasion? We're talking about something that's supposed to happen years from now. How's that for proof of stability?"

After four governments in three years, there really is a sense of stability. In part, it comes from a perception that the economy is hum-

ming along. But it is also linked to Mr. Walesa's first successful effort to strike up a working relationship with a prime minister.

She is Hanna Suchocka, a 46-year-old lawyer who projects competence, elegance and rectitude. In contrast, some might note, to Mr. Walesa.

Miss Suchocka, who has somehow managed to tame a bellowing coalition, is undoubtedly the new star. But discussions of politics still begin and end with the irrepressible, incomparable, insufferable Mr. Walesa, the former shipyard electrician from Gdansk who founded Solidarity.

He's 49 now, with seven children, a sprawling estate and a cottage of crooked beams. He acts the part familiarly to the country, starting each day with a bowl of milk soup, a kind of peasant's gruel, and attending Mass. He mulls completed crossword puzzles to newspapers and plays a lot of table tennis.

Although Mr. Walesa is still venerated to some degree outside Poland, he has many detractors within, particularly among intellectuals who view him as arrogant and dictatorial. They wince at his mangled verb endings, blush at the thought of his dining with the queen of England and worry that he will be

taken seriously when he tosses out improbable ideas like handing out 100 million zlotys (about \$6.250) to every Pole.

Still, even some detractors admit that he has been a better president than they expected. In times of crisis, he seems to do the right thing, like stepping in to negotiate the withdrawal of Soviet troops or to

"Sometimes I still wonder: How did it all happen?"

Helena Luczywo, former dissident editor

bring down a government intent on opening old secret-police files.

Aboard the presidential jet, Mr. Walesa spoke recently of the need to continue privatization of Polish industry, to keep a vigilant eye on unstable countries across the eastern border and to cooperate with Miss Suchocka.

During the long dark months when he was kept under house ar-

rest by General Jaruzelski, was he ever plagued by doubts? Not for a second, he said. He never doubted that he would one day rise to the pinnacle of political power.

"I have witnesses," he said. "I told my guards, 'Gentlemen, one day you'll be working for me.'" Mr. Walesa looked around, calling out: "Where is he?" A tall, dark man with a bulge under his jacket raised his hand sheepishly.

"It's true," he said.

Gone are the long lines that used to wind from shops up and down every downtown block, and the inconspicuous meat stores open only to party officials. Gone are the shabby figures in doorways in the Old Town who whisper to foreigners, "Change money?"

But there are Mercedes-Benz and Alfa Romeo showrooms, a Dior shop on Nowy Swiat, a shop engagingly called Snobissimo, streeters painted over to advertise smiling M&Ms, a woman in a fur stole speaking into a cellular phone, the Sex Pistols.

If a scriptwriter is behind all this, he has a heavy sense of irony. What was once a recreation club for the secret police is now Scena, Warsaw's hottest discotheque.

And as everyone delights in pointing out, the great hulking rect-

angle of concrete that used to house the party's Central Committee has been converted into a cluster of banks, investment companies and the Warsaw Stock Exchange.

"Symbolic revenge," said Wieslaw Rzulucki, president of the exchange.

One thing that seems to have disappeared are the jokes, a staple of everyday life under communism that poked fun at everything from shortages of shoes to shamelessly hypocritical politicians. That assembly line apparently has broken down, too.

New Roman Catholic churches have sprouted up, some of them gigantic structures of brick and mortar bespeaking immense power. Attending church to show disdain for the authorities was almost a patriotic duty under communism, but now attendance is down. So is the number of Poles entering the priesthood.

At the same time, the church is exerting a greater hold on national life. Religious instruction is spreading in state schools, and a new law mandates respect for "Christian values" in the news media.

"The church has become the leading role in Polish life," said Mieczyslaw Rakowski, the last prime minister under communism, adding with a wicked grin: "It has replaced God."

Years ago, a wealthy man named Lucjan Grabowski lived in Piaczka, outside Warsaw. He owned two houses, a barn, and three greenhouses, and he sold flowers and raised foxes and mink. Yet he used to complain and imagine what he could do under a different system.

"Look at me," he once said. "My house needs a new coat of paint but I won't do it because I don't want to seem ostentatious. I could afford a brand new Mercedes and pay for it with cash tomorrow morning. But I drive around in an old heap because I can't afford to be flashy."

Mr. Grabowski is no longer there; his garage has been converted into a retail venture that imports detritage. But today he would not worry about displaying his wealth. All up and down the dirt road, a preserve of the newly rich, houses are sprouting third stories and huge estates are cropping up behind fences with alarm systems.

Some of Poland's new millionaires were members of the old Communist establishment who used their connections to get import licenses in the mid-1980s, when the government decided to slake the thirst of consumers to

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Italy: Above Suspicion

(Continued from page 1)

R. Jeffrey Smith of The Washington Post contributed to this article.

In the latest blow to Italy's politicians, Parliament voted Thursday to strip former Health Minister Francesco de Lorenzo of his parliamentary immunity so that he could stand trial for ballot-rigging.

That followed developments Wednesday when the current finance minister, Franco Reviglio, sought to stave off implication in the "mani pulite" ("clean hands") investigation by denying that he had set up a shush fund for illicit political donations during a stint as the head of Italy's state energy giant, Ente Nazionale Idroelettrico, known as ENI.

ENI's current chairman, Gabriele Cagliari, was arrested last week and accused of running a vast for-profit exchange deal. Since Italy pays for all its oil imports in dollars, ENI has always been a principle consumer of Italy's foreign exchange and, according to investigators, was able to manipulate its market trading so as to generate funds, paid into foreign bank accounts, to political parties.

Some Italian economists have said the state energy concern — traditionally viewed as a stronghold of the Socialist Party, which placed political appointees in high places — paid hundreds of millions of dollars to political parties.

The former Socialist leader Bettino Craxi, forced to resign because of the scandal, is accused by Milan magistrates of taking \$12 million from ENI for his party.

Thursday's indictments concerning the failed EFIM group, which collapsed last year with debts of some \$10 billion, seemed to show the scandal spreading further into Italy's debt-ridden and inefficient public sector, which controls up to half of all economic activity.

Moreover, since Mr. Ciampi is regarded as close to Giulio Andreotti, a Christian Democrat former prime minister, the newest indictments also seem likely to pose further details of the system called "laicizzazione," whereby Italian political parties shared out the patronage accruing from state enterprises.

U.S. Expects Rise In Iran Terrorism

By Douglas Jehl
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Iranian-backed militant groups have expanded their bases of support well beyond the Middle East and represent the greatest threat in a likely escalation of terrorism around the world, senior United States officials say.

The officials said the assassination on Tuesday in Rome of an Iranian opposition figure was merely the most visible step in a pattern in which terrorist organizations backed by the Iranian government appear to be adopting a more aggressive posture.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah has widened its operations in North Africa and South America, and has established at least one cell in Canada, the officials said. They said the cell was intended to be used to give planning and logistic support to terrorist attacks, perhaps in North America.

Two senior government analysts, speaking with reporters, cautioned that the United States had established no connection between the Iranian organizations and the Feb. 26 bombing of the World Trade Center in New York. They said they had "no reason at this point to see that as being tied to any known group or any state sponsor."

Without being specific, however, they indicated that U.S. scrutiny of terrorist activities abroad in recent months had uncovered several possible leads in connection with the New York bombing.

The officials, who insisted on anonymity, said Hezbollah's expanding infrastructure had given the Iranian-backed organization the capacity to carry out attacks in parts of the world in which it had not previously operated.

"This is a development of some note," a government official said. He said the potential of attacks by Hezbollah against U.S. targets represented the greatest concern among wider signs that the problem of terrorism would escalate.

The warning follows a sharp decline last year in acts of international terrorism around the world, from more than 500 in 1991 to 361 last year, including 117 international terrorist acts directed against United States citizens and facilities, the analysts said. But they said Iran's more aggressive stance and expanding ethnic conflicts in Yugoslavia and elsewhere were now likely to propel a resurgence.

As an early indication, they pointed to the series of bombings, airplane hijackings and other terrorist attacks seen in recent weeks in India, Egypt, Colombia, and other countries.

The officials' descriptions of expanding Iranian-backed terrorist operations followed a strong State Department condemnation earlier this month of Iran as the world's "most dangerous state sponsor of terrorism."

INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

High-Wire Moscow Circus

Kremlin politics used to be hard to decipher because it was secret. Now it is open and even harder to decipher. Everything in the system — procedure, institutions and policy — is up for grabs. There are no fixed rules, no organized parties, no manners, no consensual political culture, no inhibitions on abuse. Hearty outsiders might prefer to wait for tomorrow in the hope that things will settle down. Russians have no such luxury.

Cuts We Wouldn't Feel

Judging by his budget presentation, R. James Woolsey Jr., President Bill Clinton's chief spy master, seems well on his way to becoming a captive of the old-boy bookkeepers in the intelligence agencies. Mr. Clinton, who needs to save every dollar he can, would be a sucker to let that happen.

To Redeem a Promise

For all its importance, the rule the Supreme Court announced 30 years ago this week was simple: "In our adversary system of justice, any person haled into court who is too poor to hire a lawyer cannot be assured a fair trial unless counsel is provided for him."

Arms: East Asia's Colossal Shopping Spree

By Leslie H. Gelb

SEOUL — Westerners barely noticed the announcement last month that Indonesia had bought a third of the former East German Navy at a bargain-basement price. Perhaps only stockholders paid attention as McDonnell Douglas and General Dynamics scrambled to Malaysia recently to hawk discounted fighter aircraft in a losing price war with Russia, which was willing to be paid partly in palm oil. Eyebrows raised only at the specter of nuclear war in Korea this week.

where alarm continues over North Korean nukes. To be sure, much of this buildup is routine. East Asian economies have been booming, and Asians can afford expensive modern arms. Most of the big spenders can legitimately claim the need to modernize ancient equipment.

Mideast: So Much for the Sellers' Good Intentions

By Christophe Carle

PARIS — Soon after the Gulf War it became fashionable to argue that new opportunities had opened to control exports of conventional weapons to the Middle East. Iraq had been armed to the teeth by Soviet and Western arms sales — but never again.

Japan, by far the most modern military power in the region and with a military budget soon to exceed any West European country's, is unsettled by all these events. Other countries fear its unmet demand may translate into military aggressiveness. But Tokyo has been a leader in trying to tamp down anxieties.

In Tirana, Tension Grows

By Flora Lewis

TIRANA, Albania — Quietly but relentlessly, the "cleansing" of ethnic Albanians, mostly Muslims, has already begun in the Serbian province of Kosovo. So far, it has been done by right discrimination, banning from government jobs and fierce police rule. This spurs emigration.



By CHANGHONG in Wenzhou First Press (Wenzhou, Mainland, C&W Syndicate)

Square Away the Trade-Talks Round

By Horst Schulmann

The writer is president of the central bank of Hesse state in Germany. FRANKFURT — The speedy conclusion of the Uruguay Round of global trade talks must become a high priority — as political necessity, as a matter of security policy, as a sign of determination to manage the world economy cooperatively and as a declaration of intent to continue more than 40 years of successful multilateral trade policy.

There are valuable mines, especially of chromium ore, and there is great potential for tourism. The three-hour trip under a luminous sky down the Drina river from the high dam at Fierze rivals on a smaller scale the trip through China's famed Yangtze gorges for spectacular natural beauty.

When Albania broke with Moscow over de-Stalinization in the 1950s and shut down the submarine base it had granted the Soviets, Nikita Khrushchev shrugged it off, saying, "All Albania has of use to us is pepper."

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1893: Home, Irish Sons!

NEW YORK — In celebration of St. Patrick's Day a banquet was given last night (March 17) by the society known as the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Mr. Joseph Choate addressed those present: "There is a cure for Ireland's woes and fecklessness. I propose that all of you, with your wives, your children and your children's children, with the spoil you have taken from America in your hand, set your faces homeward, that you land there and strike the blow." The speech was greeted with applause but also with some suppressed hissing.

1918: Roumania Warned

JASSY — Field Marshal von Mackensen has refused to admit that peace negotiations be delayed on account of the Ministerial crisis. He has informed the Roumanian plenipotentiaries that if the clauses contained in the peace preliminaries are not accepted by March 19 the Central Em-

From Allies To Rivals, Count on It

By Christopher Layne

LOS ANGELES — Despite the change in administrations, the foreign policy establishment still subscribes to a strategy aimed at preserving America's status as the world's sole superpower. Such thinking will ultimately endanger U.S. national security.

States that want to survive and do well must guard against an overconcentration of power in the hands of any state that could threaten their independence. To do so, they acquire the same military, economic and technological capabilities their rival has and form alliances to offset overly strong hegemonic states.

While Washington may believe its aspirations for world order reflect universal values, they reflect American preferences that may not comport with others' interests. Moreover, other states must be concerned with America's capabilities, not its intentions, which can change. Unless they can cope with the United States, they will be vulnerable to coercion. U.S. officials and analysts regularly suggest that the United States can use its superpower dominance to extract political and economic concessions from Japan, Germany and others.

This frightens U.S. strategic planners. After all, only a year ago the Pentagon said U.S. alliance policy was aimed at "detering potential competitors from even aspiring to a larger regional or global role."

The Cold War's relative stability was an anomaly resulting from bipolarity. Now, international politics are reverting to normal great power rivalry. Cold War allies will be post-Cold War competitors.

Unless policymakers and analysts face the facts of life, America will be unable to adjust to, and do well in, the emerging multipolar world.

The writer teaches international politics at the University of California at Los Angeles; this was adapted by The New York Times from an article in the Journal International Security.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

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From Allies To Rivals Count on it

Islamic Extremists Exploit West's Havens and Forums

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Islam, one of the world's great religions, is under attack from within. The nations within the bounds of religious freedom — Britain and America — have become the bases for extremists seeking to turn Islam into an aggressive political movement.

A convention in Oklahoma City attended by many law-abiding, orthodox Muslims also included lectures by a Hezbollah sheikh with a message of incitement.

Muslims, a natural reaction in the Islamic world is to close ranks and to protest religious prejudice. A wiser reaction would be to face up to their religion's subversion by radicals.

In Europe this week, intelligence officials told me that French and German internal security agencies — using "light harassment" and incessant wiretaps — had driven the fundamentalist leadership first to London and more recently to two areas in the United States: New York-New Jersey and Texas-Arizona.

The radical leaders cannot operate in most of the Arab world. Syria's deal with its non-Arab ally Iran to keep fundamentalists out is underscored by President Hafez Assad's readiness to massacre troublemakers. Egypt, its leaders often assassinated by the movement, has begun sending police into suspect mosques with guns blazing.

That's why the newspaper of the Egyptian jihad is now published in New Jersey and mailed to the Middle East; why Jordanian and Algerian members of the Islamic Front operate out of New York; why videotaped sermons by a Lebanese radical are distributed out of Dallas.

European spooks marvel at the way the FBI is hamstringing by the simple code of the radicals: Instead of issuing a *fatwa*, or death warrant, which would be prosecutable, a sheikh simply declares a targeted Muslim opponent *murid* — "apostate" — which falls within the bounds of religious comment in America but is understood by hit men to be a death sentence.

The U.S. network of extremist mosques escapes detection by using Edgar Allan Poe's theory of the purloined letter — that is, by operating in the open. A convention in Oklahoma City attended by many law-abiding, orthodox Muslims also included lectures by a Hezbollah sheikh whose message was more inciting than insightful.

Who are the warriors of the movement? "An Afghani is not an Afghani," says a longtime radical-watcher. The Afghani is the legion of fighters of many races and nations recruited and trained by Pakistan and America to help defeat Soviet invaders in the 1980s. From camps in the Peshawar region on the Pakistani-Afghan border, these hardened soldiers now are given Sudanese passports by Iranian agents and transported through Sudan to Egypt and Algeria and Lebanon.

Until Desert Storm, members from Saudi royal family members were the main financial support of the movement. Saudis could claim that contributions to the legitimate social activities of the more radical mosques were a counterweight to their irreligious behavior.

Iran has since supplemented the estimated \$200 million annual budget, but unlike the frightened Saudis, radical Iraqis want terrorist results shown before they put up money.

Since the radical display at New York's World Trade Center, the FBI is playing catch-up, even utilizing CIA connections in meeting what is believed to be a domestic threat.

How will American contain religion-terror? Its own way, with proactive police work, court-warranted surveillance and relentless prosecution — not by shooting up mosques, abusing the accused or limiting the freedom of American citizens to worship and express themselves.

Non-Muslims can help by recognizing the great trial that millions of their fellow Americans are going through, and by not thoughtlessly lumping together the orthodox, the secular and the extremist. And Muslims can help by refusing to be intimidated by their violent minority, which is now an act of considerable personal courage, and by recognizing that the law's worldwide counterattack against fanaticism can only strengthen Islam.

The New York Times

THE DEFENSE VERSION Rodney King beats himself up while L.A. police look on helplessly.



DANGER! The Crusade Against Violence Los Angeles Times Syndicate

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Point of No Return

It is time to realize that the various ethnic groups in Bosnia cannot be forced to live together in peace. The amount of hatred accumulated over the years and intensified during the hostilities is enormous. Thousands of international peacekeepers would be needed to protect the lives of citizens in a Bosnian federated state of the kind proposed by David Owen and Cyrus Vance.

The only solution which could stop the bloodshed would be the partition of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the transfer of parts of its territory to the neighboring states, and corresponding shifts of the populations. The operation would be painful and the results bitter. It might even be interpreted as a concession to xenophobic instincts.

But the resulting Bosnia — though considerably smaller — would become a viable state. Courage is required to admit that there is no return to status quo ante.

JOZEF GOLDBLAT, Geneva

Regarding "There Are Simply No Grounds for U.S. Intervention" (Opinion, March 11) by Dimitri K. Simes: Contrary to Mr. Simes's argument, I think that nonintervention in the "ethnic cleansing" going on in Bosnia would be morally dubious. Should the United States maintain a policy of inaction, it will never be able to justify its prompt military action against Iraq.

Iraqi soldiers did not commit crimes on the scale of what the Serbs are doing. It is disappointing to hear voices calling for passively standing aside.

TANJU SUMER, Vienna

A Voice for the VOA

William Pfaff, as a former member of Radio Free Europe's supervising organization, understandably extolls its virtues ("The VOA is a Voice Too Many," Opinion, March 11).

However, neither RFE nor Radio Liberty broadcasts to the former Yugoslavia — to those living "inside the caldron of wars." It is the Voice of America that has been broadcasting in Serbian, Croatian, Slovene and Albanian for almost 50 years and is a key source of information to that beleaguered region.

As for the track record of VOA in delivering the news in 49 languages, I offer you the following: During a visit to VOA in 1991, Vaelav Havel, then president of Czechoslovakia, told us: "You have informed us truthfully... [Now] you will have to inform us about how to create a democracy."

In Moscow at the time of the failed 1991 coup, graffiti scrawled on a wall near the Russian White House said: "Thank you, Voice of America, for bringing us the straight scoop." Since the spring of 1989, the Chinese government has attempted to jam our broadcasts. They certainly don't jam because they think we report on America, they do it because they do not like what we say about their repressive practices.

The world has changed, and U.S. international broadcasting is changing with it.

JOSEPH B. BRUNS, Acting Director, Voice of America, Washington

Forests Lack Glamour

Regarding "This 'Must Do' President Dethroned Too Much" (Opinion, March 4):

George F. Will pours scorn on a proposal for investing in a reduction of worldwide deforestation. Admittedly, this is not very glamorous. Now there was a glamorous policy. Sadly, rain forests do not help lobbyists as much as they help the ozone.

Mr. Will also calls the "modern state" a "mechanism for raising vast revenues." Compared to the centuries of misery that fed the last of absolute monarchs for waging war and erecting palaces, the beauty of the modern state is that the system of raising vast revenues is becoming fairer.

EDWARD STEVENSON, Dublin

REAL ESTATE MARKETPLACE. Multiple columns of real estate listings including sections for French Riviera, Paris & Suburbs, Switzerland, and various international properties. Includes contact information for agents like John Taylor and Lane Remick.

E I S U R E

It's Antwerp's Year: A Guide to Festivities

By Eric Sjogren

ANTWERP, Belgium—The scaffolding that has obstructed the view of the glorious Gothic cathedral for a generation has finally come down. The Boursa Theatre, newly refurbished, stands ready to resume its role as the center of the city's cultural life, resplendent in purple and gold as it was 150 years ago. The Central Station has been restored to its turn-of-the-century Belle Epoque glory. Antwerp's year as Cultural Capital of Europe has begun.

Antwerp lies on a bend of the River Scheldt, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) from the sea. Emperor Charles V made Antwerp Europe's principal port, and the old city around the cathedral and Grote Markt (main square) is well preserved, containing Baroque mansions, guild halls and churches. This is mainly a pedestrian area, and gets very lively at night.

Ironically, for a city that is today Europe's second largest port, Antwerp offers remarkably little in the way of river views. The modern port is just north of the city, and along the old

piers the river is mostly hidden from view by the sheds where goods used to be stored.

Antwerp '93 starts officially on March 27 and continues for the rest of the year. It comprises hundreds of music, dance and drama performances and scores of exhibitions, literary events and colloquiums.

The flagship event is the first major retrospective of works by Jacob Jordaens, born 400 years ago, a contemporary of Rubens and Van Dyck. While the two others found fame and fortune in foreign lands, Jordaens, who outlived them both by several decades, remained in Antwerp. The show is March 27 to June 27 at the Royal Museum of Fine Arts, 1-9 Leopold de Waelplaats, telephone 238-7809.

The first production at the rejuvenated Boursa Theatre is called "Sarajevo." It brings together actors from different parts of the former Yugoslavia in a play by Goran Stefanovski and Jan Mark that goes beyond the current situation to reflect on the problems and potential of the cities of the world. It will be presented March 27 to April 3 at 19 Kommedieplaat, 233-5517. Tickets are \$6.50 to \$24.

The New York-born choreographer William Forsythe, who has worked in Europe for 20 years, brings his Frankfurt Ballet and three full-length productions to Antwerp: "Limb's Theorem," April 22, 23 and 24; "The Sound of One Hand Clapping," April 27 and 28, and "The Loss of Small Detail," May 1 and 2. The May 2 performance is at 5 P.M.; all others are

at 8 P.M. at the Stadsschouwburg, 1 Theatreplein, 231-0750. Tickets are \$16.75 and \$24.

The Ark is a floating stage built for Antwerp '93 on an abandoned barge that will be moored at different locations. Young performers from 14 cities have been invited to live and work on board. The productions will highlight problems and opportunities of urban living around the world. A company led by Laura Fox from Los Angeles will be the first performers, May 20-23, followed by Olivier Franquet from Versailles May 27-30 and Ludmila Korobova from St. Petersburg June 3-6. Information: FNAC Antwerp, 231-2056.

In July and August, the city's most exciting attraction will probably be "Zingaro," billed as a "circus of the emotions" and performed in a giant Berber tent, featuring a Georgian male choir and a Berber women's choir, 25 horses, 3 donkeys and a dromedary. It will take place at Thoneleaan on the left bank, July 20 to Aug. 1 at 9:30, tickets \$26.50.

The cathedral, with its 400-foot single spire, is now as gleamingly white as it was in the 15th century. It was nearly 200 years in the building, and it seems to have taken almost as long to restore it; the work has been going on since the 1950s and has included archaeological excavations. The interior of the church can now be seen as it was 400 years ago. At that time Antwerp was a center for the production of retabes, altar frames with a carved centerpiece and painted side panels. Those that remained in Antwerp were destroyed or looted. But many were exported, and 16 have been re-

turned to be restored and exhibited in the cathedral May 26 to Oct. 3.

The Belgian collector Fritz Meyer van den Bergh picked up a Bruegel in Germany in 1894 for \$15. Called "Dulle Griet" (sometimes rendered as "Mad Meg"), it is now the centerpiece of the Museum Meyer van den Bergh, 19 Lange Gasthuisstraat, 232-4237.

Twenty-five million carats of diamonds are cut and traded in Antwerp every year, more than anywhere else; many of the dealers are members of the city's Hasidic community, the largest in Europe. There are four diamond exchanges in the nondescript diamond district near the Central Station. The best place to shop is Diamondland at 33A Appelmuizenstraat, 234-3612, where you can also see diamond polishers, a setter and a goldsmith at work creating 57-facet gems. Most purchases are in the \$1,000 to \$1,500 range.

The city did not become noted for fashion until the 1980s with the emergence of a group of avant-garde designers known collectively as the Antwerp Six. Like architects whose medium is fabric, such designers as Ann Demeulemeester, Dirk Bikkembergs and Martin Margiela changed the shape of clothes. The trend-setting shop in Antwerp is Louis, 2 Lombardenstraat, 232-9872; a jacket, for example, is about \$700. Modelplein, 16 Nationaalestraat, (03) 233-9437, is another leading fashion boutique.

Eric Sjogren, who lives in Brussels, wrote this for The New York Times.



Self-portrait by Jacob Jordaens is part of a major retrospective of the artist, which kicks off Antwerp's year as Europe's cultural capital.

Hugo Maessens

THE MOVIE GUIDE



Chris Rock in the lead role of Albert, a/k/a MC Gusto, in "CB4," a "rapumentary" on hip-hop culture.

Private Lessons

Directed by Seiji Izumi.
U.S., Japan.

It's Time to Fall in Love Again," reads the advertising slogan for this peculiar picture. For here is Goro, poor little rich boy, pining away for he knows not what. But the villainous, blacklisting chauffeur knows. The 18-year-old has full glands and love in the air. To this end the bad driver hires a foreign lady twice the lad's age to help him with his summer homework — French. She uses her white body as text (Yes, *Festumac, oui, the stomach*) and shortly has the boy in bed studying irregular verbs, while the chauffeur makes his incriminating videotapes. Cynical creature though she is, however, she shortly — as is the way with films like this — falls in love with the little nerd. Expected complications follow and in the end

they must part because in such adolescent pictures as this lovers seldom part — particularly if they are of different colors. Goro, however, has grown up and in the end we see him putting the make on his American English teacher. I guess that explains the advertising slogan. And Goro Inagaki is a Japanese pop-singing star, which explains, I guess, the financing. But what I don't understand is what a nice, intelligent actress like Joanna Pacula is doing in a picture like this. (Donald Richie, *IHT*)

Un Lugar en el Mundo
Directed by Adolfo Aristainain.
Argentina.

The pampas of Argentina serve as a majestic backdrop to this tale with two intertwined plot lines: good guys vs. bad guys and good guys vs. themselves. Aristainain, also the scriptwriter, pens in plenty of melodrama and

a small lake of tears, yet this is not a tango Western. The intrigue and beauty lie in the numerous conflicts left unresolved. A Buenos Aires Jewish doctor (Cecilia Roth) and her husband, an atheistic schoolteacher (Federico Luppi), are back home in Argentina after fleeing the military dictatorship's dirty war. Ideals intact, they and a liberal nun establish a rural cooperative to help shepherds, irritating the wealthy landowner. When a handsome, once-progressive Spanish geologist (Jose Sacristan) arrives for some shady oil explorations, you can forget the relaxed country life. Meanwhile, the liberal couple's attempts to impart values to their 12-year-old son become very complicated as they wrestle with their own future. The adventurous boy's most enduring lesson centers on the difficulty, as the film title suggests, of finding a place in the world. (Al Goodman, *IHT*)

CB4
Directed by Tamra Davis.
U.S.

"CB4" is an inside-baseball "rapumentary" on hip-hop culture that scores most of its bountiful comic points just by being down with what's inside. Written by the music critic Nelson George and Chris Rock of "Saturday Night Live" (who also plays the lead role of Albert, a/k/a MC Gusto), the movie is part rap "Spinal Tap," part Mad magazine. And, like those forms of parodic tribute, it assumes a very specific level of hipness. In other words, if you don't know rap, forget about it. If you know the turf, though, you're in for some fun. In "CB4," hip-hop, per se, is shown as a musical revolution that has already evolved past the lewd infancy that is being lampooned. It's fun to look back and laugh, even if the past was only yesterday. (Hal Hinson, *WP*)

In Japan, Shop at Spike's 'Malcolm X' Is All the Rage

By T. R. Reid
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Here's the latest fashion advice from Japan's trend-crazy young people: Don't go anywhere without your *Ekkusu*. That's *Ekkusu* as in Malcolm *Ekkusu* — "ek-ku-su" being the Japanese pronunciation of "X." The opening here last month of Spike Lee's "Malcolm X," together with a formidable marketing effort to sell the movie and related clothing, books, CDs etc., has sparked an "Ekkusu boom," particularly among young people.

Among a certain set, there seems to be a rule right now that it is all but compulsory to wear at least one item of clothing — jacket, baseball cap, T-shirt, sweater — bearing the big silver "X" logo from the film. But there's also evidence that the fascination with Malcolm X runs deeper than the usual cyclical boom.

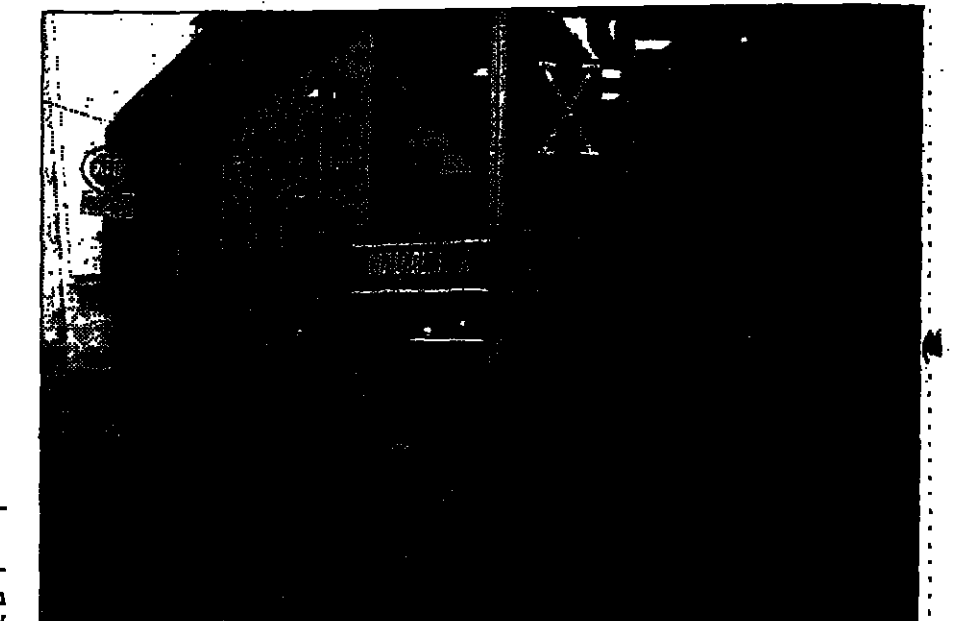
The Japanese, most of whom had probably never heard of Malcolm X three months ago, are also showing surprising interest in the black leader's intellectual and spiritual message. The attention paid to Malcolm X and the civil rights movement, in turn, is giving this homogeneous country a better sense of the American experiment in building a society woven from numerous national, racial and religious threads.

"The Autobiography of Malcolm X" was published in Japanese last month in a thick edition priced at \$25, about twice as much as serious nonfiction books usually cost in Japan. Yet, it has taken off; the publisher has ordered five reprintings in the past two weeks, and 100,000 copies are now in print.

Last week, less than three weeks after its publication, the book was the No. 1 nonfiction best-seller in Japan, according to Tohan Inc., a big book distributor.

Several other books by and about Malcolm X are also selling well, and his face on the cover of at least six Japanese magazines this week.

United International Pictures says "Malcolm X" is playing at about 60 theaters in Japan and sells out in every city every night. The film has had a major deeper impact in Japan than other recent U.S. releases, including "The Last of the Mohicans," "Bob



Shopping for "Malcolm X" memorabilia on Malcolm X Boulevard in Tokyo.

Roberts" and even "Mr. Baseball," which had a Japanese theme and a big PR campaign behind it.

TV networks have run lengthy documentaries on Malcolm X, his role in the U.S. civil rights movement and his religious and political views. Colleges and adult-education centers are holding special classes and seminars on his teachings.

The two sides of the X boom are clearly visible in the trendy Tokyo neighborhood of Shibuya, where one of the narrow shopping streets has been renamed "Malcolm X Boulevard," and retail outlets large and small are marketing Malcolm X memorabilia.

There are two branches of the Lee boutique "Spike's Joint," selling the standard black T-shirt with big silver X (\$31), a baseball cap with a red, white and blue X (\$41), sweatshirts with English slogans like "Stay Black" and "Ya-Dig Sho-Nuff" (\$67), and numerous other items of X-related apparel that are now hot among many high school and college students here.

Across the way, the Parco department store has set up a Malcolm X Gallery, a museum-cum-bookstore for people whose interests run deeper than the latest style craze. The shop offers more than 20 books about Malcolm X and his movement, four CDs of Malcolm X speeches and an assortment of other CDs and videos dealing with blacks in the United States and their fight for equality.

Answers to a questionnaire indicate that 80 percent of the people visiting the Malcolm X Gallery had never heard the man's name until about two months ago, when the public relations hoopla for the movie began. Yet, today this man is the focus of enormous interest here. Why?

"At first it was the idea of the hot new fashion," says Tadashi Fujita, editor of *Bad News* magazine, sort of a Japanese *Rolling Stone*. "This was part of black culture like rap music, hip-hop, Spike Lee. All that stuff is really cool now in Japan."

"But now, seeing the TV specials about Malcolm, hearing his speeches, seeing all these books, people are saying, 'This was an incredible person. This was a powerful leader.'"

In his own publication and in Malcolm X seminars, Fujita is reminding the Japanese that they, too, have discriminated against minority groups, such as the Ainu, the northern aboriginal tribesmen, and Koreans living in Japan, and that they should take Malcolm X's message to heart.

But another basis for the admiration of Malcolm X is that many Japanese feel a vague sense of kinship with American blacks. The feeling comes from the sense that both groups have been victims of discrimination at the hands of whites.

"We are a yellow race. We know about discrimination too," said Yuka Matsumoto, a 17-year-old high school junior who stood in line with three friends for an hour last week to get a seat at a seminar on Malcolm X and his movement.

"Malcolm X was fighting against discrimination," she said, "and we wanted to understand how he did it, what he was saying."

HOLIDAYS AND TRAVEL

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W E I S U R E

At Chanel, Dr. Lagerfeld's Potion

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — He has a patent on it: Dr. Lagerfeld's magic potion to pep up the fashion season. Chanel's show Thursday was so up it was practically flying. It was Coco on LSD as the models pranced down the runway in hairy Eskimo boots, with full-moon Mongolian lamb purses swinging and hair covered in camellias buried in psychedelic tufts of moosey fur.

Underneath the overdose of fashion paraphernalia and a show playing straight to the gallery were the most desirable and wearable clothes. You have to hand it to Lagerfeld for making Chanel happen season after season — even if this show looked like fashion's final hallucination before it trips over and out. The main scene backstage and the merry atmosphere on the runway are a tribute to his cinematic place on the current scene.

Yet Lagerfeld had claimed that he wanted to "go back to the beginning," using the long men's underwear that had first inspired Coco. The baggy leggings-without-Lycra were the least successful thing in the show — but they were just there to partner jackets embedded with sparkling sequins, made in sweet-pea pink or blue pastels, or in bright tweeds threaded with chenille and matching vests. He occasionally sent them out unadorned, but mostly with hanging-out white cotton shirts or under cobweb shawls to make a grungy mess of fine tailoring.

"It's the way to show — I don't want to make Chanel old and boring like...," Lagerfeld said backstage, giving off-the-record the name of a correct couturier. Kalman Rottenstein of Bloomingdale's, raving over the show, agreed.

"Lagerfeld is pushing styling to the nth degree to make the point — and he pushes fashion forward," he said. What was new at Chanel? Skinny long coats in porridge tweed; denim decorated with tweed braid; gummed chains; classic, classic costume sweaters with sharp borders of color; Fuss-in-Boots enlivening velvet pantsuits; pristine, romantic white collars and cuffs; a conical dress that came out first in leather, then in a snuggle of crushed velvet. Lagerfeld knows how to work the media and to make clothes that work — and that is his rare talent.

Oscar de la Renta's first ready-to-wear show for Balmain was quite a different story: ladylike, upright, primly presented. Maybe it was the hemlines. The test of a current designer is whether length is an issue, and at Balmain it was a Big Statement. Fabric flapping to the ankles was fine for the long coats — slim over pants or a swirl of riding coat with velvet trim. The same length looked dressy for a tweed suit speckled like faraway eggs or for a floppy jersey dress washed with streaks.

De la Renta had gone to the Tirol (a hot fashion spot for designers this season) for sturdy suits in muddy colors topped with the



From Lagerfeld for Chanel, tweed jacket and monkey fur hat, at left; Oscar de la Renta's Provençal-print layered look for Balmain.

kind of hats that should never leave Bavaria. There were some mildly elegant day and evening clothes, but jacquard-knit coats, vests and pants in a bouillabaisse of prints looked more provincial than Provençal. It was not a collection to catapult fashion forward or to enhance the image of Balmain.

Emanuel Ungaro's prints made an excellent opening to his long collection — squeezed this season into his couture show-room. Two parts folklore to one part sophistication was the right recipe for the ethnically patterned jacquard jackets, worn with simple flannel or plaid pants or with long, slim pleated skirts. They dominated the show to such an extent that when Ungaro suddenly sent out short black leather skirts they were an awkward shock.

The luxury sportswear look in wine-dark colors ended when the sparty flat boots came off and glamour and high heels came on. Although clients of luxury houses need evening clothes, it was difficult to believe in Ungaro's midweek jersey dresses with more drape than drape. A richly embroidered jacket doted with simple crepe pants and gossamer-fine pleated pants with a sprinkling of jet on simple jackets were fancy but classy.

Hemline ought to be able to bridge the gap between the couture ready-to-wear and younger, funkier clothes. Instead its collection of

etiolated riding clothes suggests a credibility gap. What is the market for cross-gaited suede pants, luxurious gossamer-mohair sweaters with dangling suede fringe, high-rise riding skirts and blazers printed with a pre-Yeltsin parade of caparisoned Russian horses? Refined riding jackets with a saucy swing to their backs and swooshing riding coats were fine pieces. The rest are tasteful versions of every current trend from medieval lacing to Robin Hood jekins. They will make perfect pictures for fashion magazines — and Hermès customers can carry on buying the house's signature bags and scarves.

It was strange and sweet to see Ines de la Fressange's presentation immediately after Chanel — for Ines does what Coco was: not really fashion, but one woman's take on style.

The capsule show she put on at the Plaza Athénée was deliciously witty in its visit to the Tirol — a sober tweed suit in sunshine yellow with russet velvet trim, topped with a too-small hat with an outside autumn leaf as a feather. It was funky in its scene from the 1960s: black leather with skeleton-print knit sent out to a morbid Irish ballad. Apart from redundant evening wear, each piece was just right, nothing much, but fun. De la Fressange will have a boutique in Saks Fifth Avenue in the fall. Her show could, oh it should, have made the perfect ending for a too-long Paris season.

The Right Question at the Right Time

By Roger Collis
International Herald Tribune

NOT EVERY business traveler wants to be a travel expert. Delegation, after all, is the key to effective management. But it pays to become an expert in shopping around for travel deals and knowing how to ask for them. You only get the right answers if you ask the right questions. The best way to profit from a buyer's market is to be a better customer.

For airline tickets you're probably better off going through a travel agent than calling

The Frequent Traveler

an airline direct. For hotels either book direct or through your agent, depending on whether he can get you a "better than corporate rate." But always second-guess him by checking with another agent. Even the best agents cannot deliver the best deals everywhere.

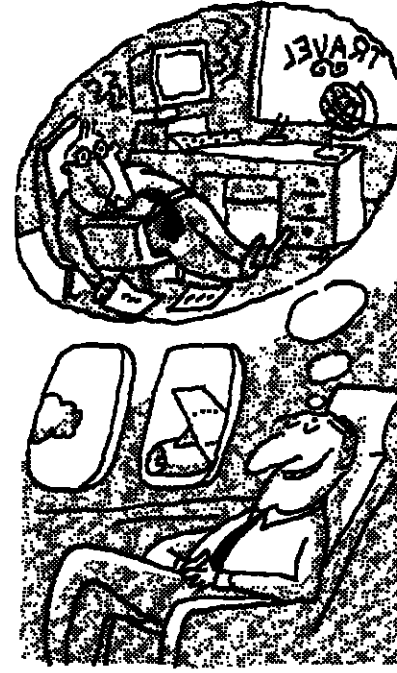
The key to buying travel is someone at the other end of a phone or desk who understands exactly what you need (even if you are not quite sure yourself) and who has the knowledge and motivation to provide it.

An agent needs the skill and motivation to hunt through the jungle of fares and come up with the best option — in terms of price, convenience and routing. Few agents are willing to save you money in this way unless you are a big customer. The harder they work at finding you the best deal, the less money they make.

Reservations people often try. But they're inclined just to read off a computer reservation system display screen. Expediency is one form of bias. More pernicious is when "host" airlines manipulate the system in favor of their own flights. By offering travel agents "override" commissions and cash bonuses for switching flights, they are able to influence the quality of information an agent gives his customers.

But before picking up the phone ask yourself some questions. Are you concerned primarily with price or with the fastest routing? Are you prepared to change planes twice to earn frequent flier miles? Are there airlines and hubs you want to use or to avoid?

Be clear about what you are offered and ask for alternatives. Be aware that a "direct" flight (even with one flight number) may not be nonstop. Do you have to change planes (if so, to which type)? Airlines or terminals? Are connections guaranteed? Are there any special deals for hotels or car rentals? Airline departures more convenient to the time you want to travel? If you were to travel at a different time, could you get a price break or a better routing? Are there other flights that get you there earlier? How can you get most frequent flier miles? Does this airline have a tendency to overbook? What about a free upgrade? Are there any penalties if you change your ticket? Would it be cheaper over the weekend? Will you be able to get a cheap



don with London-New York-London at a later date. If you fly frequently to a country with a weaker currency ask the agent to sell you "back-to-back" tickets. You buy an initial one-way ticket (to Bombay, for example) and a series of round-trips at the other end.

When it comes to hotels, always ask for a corporate rate, typically 5 to 20 percent off the rack rate. Ask your agent if he can offer you a "negotiated rate" through bulk buying or membership of an agency consortium such as Hickory or Woodside. You may be able to get up to a 40 percent discount. Ask the agent if you qualify for a better deal with a "fly-stay" program.

Whatever discount you're offered, it is a good idea to call a hotel directly to ask about weekend promotions — which may not always make it into the central reservations computer. In large cities, many mid-price and deluxe hotels slash rates over weekends, typically by about 50 percent. But always ask for the net rate when you call. The discount may be inflated only on high-price rooms or an inflated rack rate that nobody pays. An inquiry to reception might go something like this:

"Hi, what can you offer me for next Thursday?"
"I have a deluxe king for \$300."
"Is there a corporate rate?"
"Yes, \$270."
"And other rooms?"
"Executive twins are \$230, regular twins are \$180."
"What does that include?"
"Service and tax. English breakfast is extra."
"That's more than I'm ready to pay. What about weekend deals or promotions?"
"I can give you 50 percent off a regular twin for Friday, Saturday or Sunday night."
"What does that make the net rate?"
"That's \$90."
"Can you give me that rate if I stay Thursday and Friday?"
"Yes, I'd be pleased to do that."
"Any chance of an upgrade?"
"I can probably give you an executive twin for the same."
"If you can do it with breakfast as well I'll take it."
"Fine. Your name please?"
An ounce of chutzpah can go a long way.

DO'S AND DON'TS

Priorities
Do decide your priorities and how much flexibility you need before calling the travel agent or reservations desk.

Knowledge is Power
Don't be deterred by the ignorance of reservations staff. They may not know or care about other possibilities. Test them with your own knowledge. Hit them with "what if?" scenarios.

Hotel Promotions
Do call hotels direct to ask about any promotions. These do not always make it into central reservations.

Alternatives
Do be clear about what you are offered and ask for alternatives. If you travel at different time, can you get a better routing or a price break? Will you get a better rate by extending your stay?

THE ARTS GUIDE



Works from the Jules Flaudrin retrospective in Isère, France.



AUSTRIA
Vienna
Kunsthau Wien (tel: 712.0485). To May 3: "Andy Warhol: 1928-87." More than 100 works on canvas and Pop Art sculptures by the American artist along with 50 photographs by Christopher Makos.
Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig (tel: 34.12.59). To April 11: "Marcel Rayssac." A retrospective including more than 150 works produced between 1959 and 1991.

BELGIUM
Brussels
Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire (tel: 733.4547). To April 30: "Splendeurs des textiles, weapons, mosaics and frescoes from the 2d to 7th centuries."
Ghent
Museum voor Schone Kunsten (tel: 217.109). March 20 to June 6: "Theo van Doesburg." A retrospective of paintings and drawings by the Belgian Neo-Expressionist.

BRITAIN
Durham
Durham Cathedral Celebrates 900 Years (tel: 846.9000). To Nov. 3. More than 800 exhibitions, concerts, conferences and special events mark the 900th anniversary of Durham Cathedral in North East England.

London
Design Museum (tel: 403.6933). To August 22: "Detached Dreams." Photographs by Graham Evans doc-

ument the dreams and aspirations of contemporary British society through trends in design.
Royal Academy of Arts (tel: 439.7498). To June 6: "Sergey Rodin: The Early Years 1903-20." A retrospective including paintings, watercolors, ceramics and drawings.
World Circuit Arts (tel: 809.7900). To April 19: "The Living Fire." A festival featuring Kurdish arts and culture through a wide range of films and videos along with live performances and exhibitions of their artisan tradition in costumes, design, painting, handicrafts.
The Whitworth Art Gallery (tel: 273.4865). To March 27: "Nature's Way: Romantic Landscapes from Norway." More than 120 oil studies, watercolors and drawings by J.C. Dahl and Thomas Fearnley.

CANADA
Montreal
Musée des Beaux-Arts (tel: 993.1800). To March 28: "Grand Slab." More than 130 paintings by 17th-century French artists, with works by Le Nain, Poussin, Lator, La Suar and La Hyre.
Ottawa
National Gallery of Canada (tel: 990.19.85). To May 23: "The Crisis of Abstraction in Canada: The 1950s." Abstract art by such groups as the Automatistes, Painters Eleven and First Plasticiens.
Toronto
Art Gallery of Ontario (tel: 977.04.14). To June 20: "Roman Vishniac." Vishniac's photographs document the Jewish communities in

Lublin, Krakow and Warsaw in the 1930s.
THE CZECH REPUBLIC
Prague
Museum of Applied Arts (tel: 57.73.08). To March 30: "Borek Srpalec: The Neerness of the Far Arch." A retrospective of works produced between 1940 and 1991 by the English figurative artist.
Toulouise
Musée des Augustins (tel: 61.22.21.82). To June 7: "Samar-cande: Ses Yarnes Secrètes." More than 400 ceramic works produced between the 8th and 13th centuries.
DENMARK
Humlebaek
Louisiana Museum of Modern Art (tel: 42.19.07.19). To May 7: "At the Edge of Chaos: New Images of the World." A survey of developments in architecture, the visual arts and science.
FRANCE
Ile de France
Musée Jean Vinay (tel: 78.36.40.88). To May 31: "Jules Flaudrin." A retrospective including more than 300 paintings by Jules Flaudrin.
Paris
La Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie (tel: 40.05.85.85). To Aug. 31: "La Douleur." This exhibition explores aspects of pain and ways created to combat it.
Musée des Arts de la Mode et du Textile (tel: 42.80.32.14). March 20 to Aug. 1: "La Renaissance de la Mode italienne: 1952-1973." The best in Italian fashion presented in more than 90 mannequin displays.
Musée-Galerie de la Selta (tel: 45.56.60.18). To May 29: "Mocsa d'une République: de Gaulle à Mitterrand." Caricatures and satirical drawings and illustrations of French presidents from de Gaulle to Mitterrand.
Toulouse
Musée des Augustins (tel: 61.22.21.82). To June 7: "Samar-cande: Ses Yarnes Secrètes." More than 400 ceramic works produced between the 8th and 13th centuries.

GERMANY
Berlin
Haus der Kulturen der Welt (tel: 397.870). To May 2: "China Avant-Garde." Contemporary art from China featuring the works of 16 artists.
Bonn
Rheinisches Landesmuseum (tel: 729.41). To April 25: "Hundert Jahre Photographie in Russland von 1840-1940." One hundred years in Russia illustrated through more than 390 portraits, landscapes, genre photographs and still lifes.
Wiel am Rhein
Vitra Design Museum (tel: 702.200). To March 28: "Miniaturen." A series of miniatures which exemplify furniture design over the past few decades.

IRELAND
Dublin
The Irish Museum of Modern Art (tel: 718.669). To May 30: "P.J. Carroll Collection: Aspects of Irish Painting (1960-1990)." Works by contemporary Irish artists.

ISRAEL
Jerusalem
The Israel Museum (tel: 70.88.11). March 23 to June 6: "Familiar Faces." Drawings, prints, photographs, oil paintings, and sculpture explore approaches to portraiture.
ITALY
Ligano
Dicastero Musei e Cultura (tel: 20.72.09). To May 30: Francis Bacon: 1909-1992." A retrospective of works produced between 1940 and 1991 by the English figurative artist.
Turin
Castello di Rivoli (tel: 958.7256). To April 25: "Torino e l'Arte." An exhibition on Turin's role in contemporary culture and art between 1950 and 1970.
JAPAN
Himeji
Himeji City Museum of Art (tel: 92.22.22.88). To April 1: "Pictures, Stories and Poems." More than 60 pictures pertaining to subjects found in literary works, including Picasso's etchings for a Balzac novel and Matsuo's etchings for a collection of poems.
Kyoto
Kyoto National Museum (tel: 541.1151). To May 8: "The Roots of Japanese Nationality." This exhibit re-creates the ancient establishment of Yamato, the first unified state in the Japanese archipelago, through more than 650 artifacts collected from ruins throughout the country.
Tokyo
National Museum of Modern Art (tel: 3214.2561). To March 28: "Fauvism and Modern Japanese Painting." Features 200 oil paintings by Dufy, Kandinsky and Matisse, among others.

NETHERLANDS
Amsterdam
Tropenmuseum (tel: 568.82.00). To Aug. 22: "ADIVASI: Het Andere India." In commemoration of the international year for the indigenous people, this exhibit pays tribute to the indigens of India. Includes drawings, murals, paintings and sculptures.
Groningen
Groninger Museum (tel: 183.343). To April 25: "Mirror of the East Asian Art from the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam." Artwork from China, Japan, India, Indonesia and Nepal, evacuated between the 2d and 17th centuries.
Maastricht
Maastricht Exhibition and Congress Centre (tel: 438.3869). To March 21: "The European Fine Art Fair." One hundred and sixty dealers from Europe and the United States present their finest in Old Master paintings, drawings, ancient Oriental and Western works, silver, jewelry and textiles.

RUSSIA
St. Petersburg
The State Hermitage Museum (tel: 812.2129545). To April 11: "The George Ortiz Collection." Some 280 masterpieces spanning 30 cultures from the Neolithic age to the late Byzantine period.

SPAIN
Barcelona
Sala Sant Jaume (tel: 318.4744).

To Feb. 28: "El Arte en la Pel." More than 124 objects made from fur from the collection of Andreu Colomer Murrany.
Valencia
IVAM Centre Julio Gonzalez (tel: 386.3000). "The Art of the Avant-Garde in Czechoslovakia." More than 500 works by Czech avant-garde artists.

SWEDEN
Stockholm
Nationalmuseum (tel: 6684250). To March 28: "Furniture, Mattress, Chair, Bed, Table and Bohemian." Innovative furniture by leading designers of the current century. Also, To April 12: "Munch and Carrière: Two Symbolist Printmakers." Forty prints by the Norwegian and French artists.

SWITZERLAND
Geneva
Musée de l'Athénée (tel: 22.31.61.90). To April 6: "Hommage à Theodore Stawinsky." A retrospective of the artist's paintings and pastels.
Martigny
Fondation Pierre Gianadda (tel: 22.39.78). To June 10: "Retrospective Jean Dubuffet, 1901-85." More than 150 works in various mediums by the French artist.

UNITED STATES
Chicago
The Art Institute (tel: 443.36.00). To May 30: "Magritte." A retrospective surveying 50 years of work by the Belgian Surrealist Rene Magritte. More than 200 paintings, sculptures and works on paper.

Houston
Museum of Fine Arts (tel: 713.526.1361). To June 27: "Imperial Austria: Treasures of Art, Arms and Armor from the State of Styria." More than 300 works chronicle the history of Austrian culture through art, arms and armor, as it evolved in the Austri-an state known as Styria during the period of the Habsburg rule.
New York
Guggenheim Museum (tel: 423.3500). To May 16: "Picasso and the Age of Iron." More than 100 sculptures from the years 1925 to 1950 by Pablo Picasso, Julio Gonzalez, Alexander Calder, David Smith and Alberto Giacometti.
Washington
The Corcoran Gallery of Art (tel: 638.3211). To April 4: "Africa Explores: 20th-Century African Art." More than 100 objects from 15 countries.



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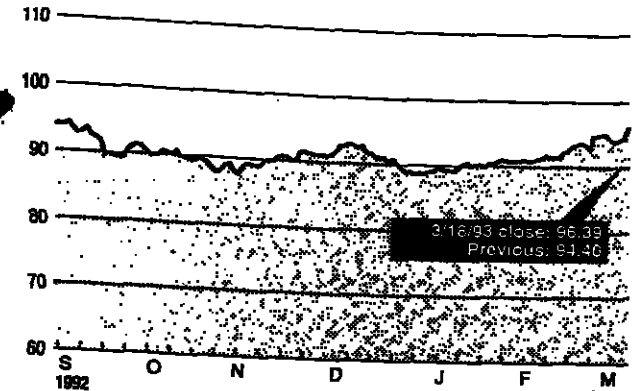
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Close: 98.85	Prev.: 94.87	% change: +4.20	Close: 94.23	Prev.: 92.82	% change: +1.52	Close: 97.27	Prev.: 96.42	% change: +0.85																																																												
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For readers desiring more information about the International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, a booklet is available free of charge by writing to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France.

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WALL STREET WATCH

Hilton Hotels Is Trying To Capitalize on Its Name

By Edwin McDowell
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The stock of Hilton Hotels Corp. traded at \$115.50 in 1992, when the company put itself on the auction block. But when no one bid for it, the stock plummeted and has been trading at about half that value ever since. The stock closed Thursday at \$48.125, off 37.5 cents, on the New York Stock Exchange.

"We have it rated a hold," said Margro L. Vignola of Salomon Brothers, "mostly because it still derives close to half its sales and operating profits from its hotels." Many of those properties are in big cities plagued by overcapacity and where room rates have been depressed for several years.

Hilton owns 21 hotels, including the Waldorf-Astoria in New York and the Palmer House in Chicago. It partly owns 14 hotels and it manages or franchises 207 others, including 42 resorts. Its owned-and-operated properties include five hotel casinos in Nevada and casinos in Australia and Turkey. This week, Hilton and a partner, New Orleans Paddlewheels Inc., received the first of two licenses required to operate a riverboat casino on the Mississippi River, and Hilton was recently chosen to operate a riverboat casino for Kansas City, Missouri.

Ms. Vignola thinks the Las Vegas Hilton, which caters to conventions and high rollers, and the Flamingo Hilton-Las Vegas, which seeks leisure travelers, may lack the bells and whistles that some competitors there will use to lure guests and gamblers. But, conceding that Hilton has "a lot of intrinsic earnings potential and intrinsic value," Ms. Vignola estimates earnings a share this year of \$2.55, up from the \$2.17 a share that Hilton earned in 1992.

Hilton is looking for distressed Bally's Casino Resort in Reno, Nevada, last year the Hilton, which cost more than \$220 million to build, now the Reno Hilton, which cost more than \$220 million to build. And the company hopes to cash in on its name to continue acquiring management contracts and converting existing hotels.

Hilton avoided the 1980s building and buying binge that hurt other hotel companies, and is well situated for growth. "As of the fiscal year we had \$665 million in cash and equivalents," said Raymond C. Avansino Jr., the president and chief operating officer.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Eurocurrency Deposits									
	Dollar	Swiss Franc	Japanese Yen	British Pound	French Franc	German Mark	Italian Lira	Spanish Ptas	Other
1-month	3 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
3-month	3 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
6-month	3 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
1-year	3 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4

Trouble Abroad: U.S. Exports Slow

By Lawrence Malkin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — The Commerce Department reported Thursday a sharp deceleration in U.S. export growth for January, something that had long been forecast amid the world economic slowdown.

Imports also declined, but the monthly trade deficit nevertheless widened 6 percent to \$7.3 billion, a trend that is expected to continue in 1993.

The statistics were released on the same day that Jacques Delors, president of the EC Commission, was holding talks with President Bill Clinton on trade issues.

January's export growth was only 4.3 percent from a year earlier, or almost flat after price rises, and is expected to continue declining. Exports fell to \$37.01 billion in January from \$39.67 billion in December. Economists were puzzled, meanwhile, by a drop in imports to \$44.31 billion from \$46.56 billion.

Some attributed the drop to a low level of restocking after Christmas and predicted imports would start rising again for spring buying, as they did in the pre-Christmas months, making the U.S. trade deficit back toward \$100 billion this year. Others said U.S. goods were regaining a competitive edge in price

and quality, a development most marked in the automobile industry.

The export decline was led by foreign sales of jet aircraft, which plunged by almost \$900 million to \$1.48 billion as foreign deliveries by Boeing Co. fell to 21 planes, from 28 the previous month. Foreign sales of automobiles and parts also dropped about \$900 million, to \$1.48 billion, as sales of American recreational and four-wheel-drive vehicles slowed in the international economic downturn. But U.S. automobile imports also declined, by \$851 million to \$3.54 billion, as domestic producers began recapturing some market share.

Partly because of this, the U.S. trade deficit with Japan, which accounts for about half the total and creates the principal political and economic irritant between the two countries, narrowed to \$3.9 billion from \$5.1 billion. But this is unlikely to make things much easier for Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa when he comes to Washington on April 16.

Mr. Clinton still is expected to press him to stimulate Japan's economy as a way of raising its imports.

Lawrence Summers, Mr. Clinton's nominee for Treasury undersecretary for international affairs, told the Senate Finance Com-

mittee at his confirmation hearing Thursday morning that U.S. economic growth was likely to eclipse Europe's and Japan's this year and next.

"While we can take satisfaction from our recovery, slow growth abroad means slower growth for U.S. exports and rising trade imbalances," he warned, Mr. Summers said the imbalances demanded an improvement in economic coordination among the Group of Seven industrial nations.

Economists warned that in the immediate future, the United States would probably continue to go it alone in growth among the industrialized powers and would get little help from export markets. Edward Yardeni of C.J. Lawrence calculated that trade contributed to the country's economic growth in the last quarter of 1992 but said it would probably detract from growth this quarter.

David Rolley, international economist at DRI/McGraw Hill, said that all of the 6 percent increase in U.S. exports last year came from Latin America and Asia, and he forecast an increase of only 4 percent this year, with none of it coming in Europe or Japan. He forecast import growth of 8 percent or 9 percent, about the same as last year.

Man Who Built BMW Gives Up Post

By Ferdinand Protzman
New York Times Service

BONN — BMW surprised the automotive world on Thursday by announcing the replacement of Eberhard von Kuenheim, the autocratic executive who transformed the maker of cars and motorcycles into a global concern during his 23-year tenure as managing board chairman.

Mr. von Kuenheim, 64, will relinquish his post in May and become chairman of the supervisory board. He will be succeeded by Bernd Pischetsrieder, BMW's 45-year-old chief of production.

Under Mr. von Kuenheim, Bayerische Motoren Werke AG experienced the most dynamic growth in its history, as sales soared from \$393 million in 1970 to \$20.1 billion in 1992. He reinvested billions of marks in steadily upgrading BMW's design, research and production facilities, which now rank among the most modern in the industry.

The company reached several milestones last year: Its car produc-

tion surpassed that of its archrival Mercedes-Benz for the first time and Mr. von Kuenheim announced that BMW would build a production plant near Greenville, South Carolina, making it the only European car company building automobiles in the United States. Volkswagen AG is the only other German

to replace him is considered a surprise, too. Industry experts had long viewed Wolfgang Reitzle, BMW's design and development chief, as the most likely successor.

The change of chairman at BMW comes as all European automakers are feeling the effects of recession in much of the industrial

world. The European market is projected to contract 20 percent this year and little improvement is forecast for 1994.

At the same time, Japanese car companies are moving aggressively into the European Community market, where they are setting up production facilities to get around quotas on imported cars.

The downturn is being felt most acutely in Germany, which has Europe's largest automotive industry. Companies like Volkswagen AG and Daimler-Benz AG have been

forced to take radical moves to cut costs and improve productivity because of the decline in sales.

While BMW has seemed largely immune to the problems plaguing its rivals, the choice of Mr. Pischetsrieder indicates that the Munich-based manufacturer is preparing for much tougher competition in the near future.

Mr. Pischetsrieder is an energetic young engineer who has extensively studied Japanese methods of "lean manufacturing" and just-in-time supply of components to the assembly line. One of his most notable accomplishments so far was designing the assembly plant that will be built in South Carolina.

Mr. Pischetsrieder joined the company as a planner in the production department in 1973, after graduating from Munich's Technical University with an engineering degree. Two years later he was made head of the production department at the Munich assembly plant. From 1982 to 1985, he headed BMW's operations in South Africa, where it has a small assembly plant.

Real Estate Boosts Cheung Kong

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd., the flagship investment holding company of the tycoon Li Ka-shing, said Thursday that its net profit last year jumped 28.2 percent to 6.26 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$802.6 million).

Cheung Kong, which has vast real estate interests in Hong Kong, benefited from continued increases in the price of apartments in the British colony.

Revenue rose 3 percent, to 10.28 billion dollars, and operating profit leaped to 3.4 billion dollars, from 1.12 billion.

But Cheung Kong's associated company, Hutchison Whampoa Ltd., suffered from losses in its telecommunications business in Britain and from a write-down in the value of its stake in Husky Oil of Canada.

Profit fell 4.7 percent to 3.17 billion dollars at Hutchison, which also has real estate and retail

interests. Revenue there rose 9.5 percent, to 21.03 billion dollars.

Cheung Kong owns 40 percent of Hutchison. Mr. Li, discussing Cheung Kong's results at a news conference, said, "Barring unforeseen circumstances, the 1993 dividend won't be less than the 1992 level." Cheung Kong's total dividend for last year was 80 Hong Kong cents a share, up from 68 cents in 1991.

China could be Cheung Kong's next big area of growth, Mr. Li said. The Hong Kong property market seemed to settle down this year, particularly in the residential sector, and Mr. Li said he expected the trend to continue in 1993.

But across the border in China, mainland officials reported 12.8 percent economic growth last year. Mr. Li said further expansion into China offered great opportunities for investors.

He stressed, however, that China investment See LI, Page 13

Western Bond Issuers Go East

By Kevin Murphy
International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG — With its trade surpluses creating a vast pool of capital, Hong Kong is finally becoming a magnet for Western offerings of fixed-income debt. But if the colony's bond traders think their markets will replace equities as the glamor game in town any time soon, they are reading the tea leaves wrong.

Asian investors at home tend to buy high-rated bonds and hold until maturity, not trade them. That is something the region's bond traders want to change.

A glance at the region's swelling trade surpluses explains why a delegation from the Swedish national debt office recently toured the region, why a major French bank, BNP, is flying in a capital-markets team to open shop in Hong Kong on April 1, and why General Electric Capital Corp. was able to smoothly launch a \$300 million, five-year dragon bond issue with a 5.52 percent yield Thursday.

"It's true, there is a large and probably growing appetite for fixed-income paper here now,"

says Paul Giles, executive vice president for private banking with Creditanstalt in Hong Kong. "But if it's not highly rated or a name people know well, they're much less interested."

The dragon bond, essentially a Eurobond sold and listed in Asia, primarily in Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan, was pioneered by the Asian Development Bank, which saw in its own needs to raise money an opportunity to spur the development of capital markets for Asian borrowers in their own time zones.

The ADB's rationale holds that many companies who go abroad for capital pay more than equally rated Western companies and therefore should relish the opportunity to stay at home where they are better known.

But so far, dragon bond issuers have paid for their trail-blazing. GE Capital's Thursday offering, the first corporate issue and only the third after two ADB offerings last year, was set 30 basis points above a com-

parable five-year Treasury note.

According to Oakreed Financial Services' managing director, Patrick Thomas, the premium is worth the marketing exercise and the opportunity to broaden GE Capital's investor base in preparation for future issues, probably four more with two years.

But Mr. Thomas remains cautious. "This market still has to prove itself and distinguish itself from others," he said. "If the issue finds its way back into the usual holders' hands, people in the Euro-bond market, then they will have paid too much."

While strong demand appears to exist for these and other securities, a lack of supply means high-volume secondary trading in Asia has yet to materialize, and with it liquidity.

"It's probably developing more slowly than the ADB would like to see," said Thomas Jasper, managing director of Salomon Brothers Hong Kong Ltd. "The market is

See DRAGON, Page 13

CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL FUND

Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable
Registered Office:
L-1528 Luxembourg, 5, Boulevard de la Foire
R.C. Luxembourg B 8833

Shareholders are invited to attend the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS which will be held at 5, Boulevard de la Foire, Luxembourg on March 30, 1993 at 11.00 am:

- AGENDA
1. Reports of the Board of Directors and of the Auditors.
 2. Approval of the financial statements as of December 31, 1992.
 3. Decision on distribution of a cash dividend.
 4. Discharge of the Directors in respect of the carrying out of their duties for the year ended December 31, 1992.
 5. Election of the Directors and appointment of the Auditors.
 6. Miscellaneous.

- NOTES
1. Resolutions shall require no quorum but a simple majority of the shares present or represented at the Meeting.
 2. Holders of bearer shares may vote at the Meeting in person by producing at the Meeting either share certificates or a certificate of deposit issued by their bank which will be issued to them against deposit of their share certificates. Holders of bearer shares may vote at the Meeting by proxy by completing the form of proxy which will be made available to them against deposit of the share certificates as aforesaid. Share certificates so deposited will be retained until the Meeting or any adjournment thereof has been concluded.

The Board of Directors

CAPITAL ITALIA

Société Anonyme d'Investissement
Registered Office:
L-1528 Luxembourg, 5, Boulevard de la Foire
R.C. Luxembourg B 8458

Shareholders are invited to attend the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS which will be held at 5, Boulevard de la Foire, Luxembourg on March 30, 1993 at 10.00 am:

- AGENDA
1. Reports of the Board of Directors and of the Auditors.
 2. Approval of the financial statements as of December 31, 1992.
 3. Decision on allocation of net profits.
 4. Ratification of the co-optation of a Director.
 5. Appointment of the Auditors.
 6. Discharge of the Directors in respect of the carrying out of their duties for the year ended December 31, 1992.
 7. Miscellaneous.

- NOTES
1. Resolutions shall require no quorum but a simple majority of the shares present or represented at the Meeting.
 2. Holders of bearer shares may vote at the Meeting in person by producing at the Meeting a certificate of deposit which has been issued to them against deposit of their share certificates with their bankers or all offices of Credito Italiano in Italy, five days prior to the Meeting.

Shareholders of bearer shares may vote at the Meeting by proxy by completing the form of proxy which will be made available to them against deposit of their share certificates as aforesaid or presentation of their certificates of deposit. In order to be valid all forms of proxy must reach the company at its registered office, 5, boulevard de la Foire, L-1528 Luxembourg or at Credito Italiano, five clear days prior to the Meeting. Share certificates so deposited will be retained until the Meeting or any adjournment thereof has been concluded.

The Board of Directors

MARKET DIARY

German, U.S. Rates Bolster Wall Street

Bloomberg Business News NEW YORK — Wall Street stocks soared Thursday because of falling German and U.S. interest rates.

N.Y. Stocks

3,477.26 pitched the index just below its all-time closing high of 3,478.34 set March 10.

"The Bundesbank cut its rate and that hasn't failed to give the stock market a boost yet," said Philip Smyth, a stock market analyst at Biny Associates.

Advancing common stocks topped declines by about 2 to 1 on the New York Stock Exchange.

Treasury bonds rose following the Bundesbank's decision to cut the discount rate to 7.5 percent from 8 percent, reports of a high amount of unemployment claims in early March, a drop in imports and exports in January, and a report from the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia suggesting slower economic activity.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond gained 7 3/8 to close at 104 5/32. The yield was 6.8 percent, down 6 basis points on the day.

RATE: Bundesbank Takes Action

(Continued from page 1) tions at the beginning of this year for further easing of monetary policy.

Richard Reid, chief economist with UBS Phillips & Drew in Frankfurt, said that when Germany's political leaders agreed to a "solidarity pact" last weekend on financing the reconstruction of Eastern Germany, all those conditions had been met.

Underlying inflation is under control, the money supply growth is slowing and the unions accepted relatively low pay packages in this year's negotiations," Mr. Reid said.

"Those were the conditions. From this level, I see the Bundesbank conducting an orderly retreat on monetary policy. I think the key interest rates will come down in a series of small, careful steps by another 200 basis points by the end of this year and by 100 more over the course of next year."

That would put the discount rate, for example, at 5.5 percent by the end of 1993 and 4.5 percent sometime during 1994.

The monetary easing has been accelerating as the recession deepens. On Feb. 4, the Bundesbank

make stocks more attractive relative to fixed-income securities. "I think the stock market is following the bond market right now," said Barry Berman, head trader at Robert W. Baird.

"You've got a reaction to interest rates and the end of the quarter," Mr. Berman said. "Stocks that have been weak will continue to be weak because people are going to want them out of their portfolios. There's a lot of cash around that's going into stocks with more predictable earnings growth."

Ford Motor Co. soared 2 1/4 to 51 1/4 after analysts at Smith Barney and Salomon Brothers raised their earnings estimates.

Sears Roebuck rose 2 to 52 1/4. The stock was recommended by money manager Michael Price.

McDonald Douglas Corp. slid 2 1/4 to 54 1/4 on reports that the aerospace and defense contractor is being investigated by the SEC for an alleged attempt to cover up information about losses on its contract to build the C-17 military transport plane.

United Technologies Co. shed 1/4 to 46 1/4. The company's Pratt & Whitney engine unit plans to eliminate more than 3,600 jobs by the end of March.

Chiron Corp. jumped 2 to 52 1/4 to 51 1/4 after analysts at Smith Barney and Salomon Brothers raised their earnings estimates.

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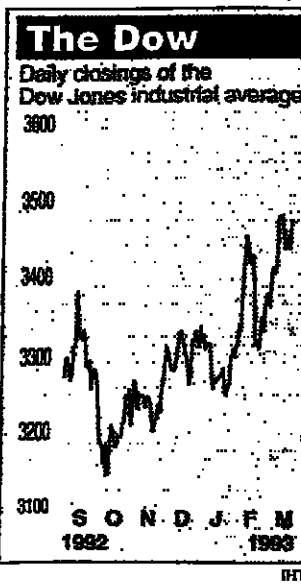


Table titled 'NYSE Most Active' showing stock symbols, volume, high, low, and last price for various companies like Merck, Ford, and McDonald.

Table titled 'AMEX Most Active' showing stock symbols, volume, high, low, and last price for companies like ALC, Ford, and McDonald.

Table titled 'NASDAQ Diary' showing advanced, declined, and unchanged stock counts for the day.

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Table titled 'Dow Jones Averages' showing indices for Industrials, Transportation, Utilities, Finance, and SP 500.

Table titled 'Standard & Poor's Indexes' showing indices for Industrials, Transportation, Utilities, Finance, and SP 500.

Table titled 'NYSE Indexes' showing indices for Composite, Industrials, Transportation, Utilities, Finance, and SP 500.

Table titled 'NASDAQ Indexes' showing indices for Composite, Industrials, Transportation, Utilities, Finance, and SP 500.

Table titled 'AMEX Stock Index' showing index value and change.

Table titled 'Dow Jones Bond Averages' showing indices for 30 Bonds, 10 Utilities, and 10 Industrials.

Table titled 'Market Sales' showing volume for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ.

Table titled 'N.Y.S.E. Odd-Lot Trading' showing trading volume for various stock categories.

Table titled 'S&P 100 Index Options' showing call and put option data for the S&P 100 index.

Table titled 'EUROPEAN FUTURES' showing futures prices for various European markets.

Table titled 'SUGAR (POD)' showing futures prices for sugar.

Table titled 'COFFEE (POD)' showing futures prices for coffee.

Table titled 'METALS' showing futures prices for various metals like Aluminum, Copper, and Nickel.

Table titled '3-MONTH EURO-DOLLARS (LIFTER)' showing futures prices for 3-month Euro-dollars.

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Table titled 'LONG GILT (LIFTER)' showing futures prices for Long Gilt.

Table titled 'INDUSTRIALS' showing futures prices for various industrial sectors.

Table titled 'STOCK INDEXES' showing futures prices for various stock indices.

Table titled 'SPOT COMMODITIES' showing prices for various commodities like Aluminum, Copper, and Nickel.

Table titled 'DIVIDENDS' showing dividend payments for various companies.

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Kemper in Swap With Lumbermens

LONG GROVE, Illinois (Bloomberg) — Kemper Corp. said Thursday it would exchange two insurance units for most of Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Co.'s 38 percent equity stake in Kemper.

The agreement will reduce Lumbermens' stake in Kemper to 4 percent, the lowest level since Lumbermens established the publicly held Kemper Corp. in 1968.

Under the agreement, Lumbermens will get Kemper National Insurance Co., which reinsures other property and casualty insurance companies, and the remaining half of National Loss Control Service Corp., which owns 50 percent of Kemper's Risk Management Services unit, a joint venture of Kemper and Lumbermens.

Carla Hills on Time Warner Board

NEW YORK (AP) — Time Warner Inc. said Thursday the former baseball commissioner, Francis T. (Fay) Vincent Jr., and the former U.S. trade representative, Carla A. Hills, were nominated to its board.

The media-entertainment conglomerate said the board had also nominated David T. Kearns, the former Xerox Corp. chief executive, and Reuben A. Mark, chief executive of Colgate-Palmolive Co., for seats.

Shareholders will get a chance to vote on the nominations at the company's annual meeting on May 20. If they are elected, they will increase the number of nonemployees who are serving on the board to 13 of 15.

Chairman Gerald Levin has moved since the death last December of the former chairman, Steven Ross, to reduce the size of the board as well as the proportion of company insiders serving on it.

UAL Confirms Boeing Outback Deal

NEW YORK (Combined Dispatches) — UAL Corp. said Thursday it had concluded negotiations with Boeing Co. over reductions in aircraft purchases. "The Boeing deal is done. We shook hands about a month ago," said Jack Pope, UAL's president, before an analysts' meeting.

Mr. Pope said UAL was in active talks to reduce engine purchases. Separately, Japan Air System Co., which has said it expects a loss this financial year, said it had canceled plans to buy six Boeing 747-400 jumbo jets and was negotiating to buy seven smaller and cheaper Boeing planes instead.

A USAir will spend about \$200 million to buy Rolls-Royce jet engines to power 15 Boeing 757-200 twinjet airplanes, the companies said Thursday. The airline, based in Arlington, Virginia, now has 40 757s in service or on order. The airline also placed orders to buy engines for 15 other jets.

"Eighty percent of Boeing 757 operators have selected the Rolls-Royce engine, and there is clearly a high degree of customer satisfaction," said Rolls-Royce's chairman, Sir Ralph Robins.

Allstate to Offer Debt With Stock

WASHINGTON (Bloomberg) — Allstate Corp. told the Securities and Exchange Commission on Thursday that it planned to sell \$600 million of debt securities shortly after its first-time sale to the public of 78.5 million shares of common stock.

The Chicago-based Sears, Roebuck & Co. is using the initial public offering and the debt issue to sell 20 percent of Allstate, its insurance subsidiary, to the public as part of its plan to leave the financial-services business.

Japanese Buy Less U.S. Real Estate

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Japanese investment in American real estate plunged last year because of financial problems in Japan and the United States, according to a report released Thursday.

The total Japanese investment of \$807 million in 1992, down from \$5.1 billion in 1991, was the lowest since this data was first tracked in 1985 by the accounting firm of Kenneth Leventhal & Co., company officials said.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Table titled 'WORLD STOCK MARKETS' showing stock indices for various countries like Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan, Montreal, Paris, Singapore, Stockholm, Sydney, Tokyo, Zurich, and Johannesburg.

AMSTERDAM

Table titled 'AMSTERDAM' showing stock prices for various companies like ABN-Amro, ACP, and others.

BRUSSELS

Table titled 'BRUSSELS' showing stock prices for various companies like ABN-Amro, ACP, and others.

FRANKFURT

Table titled 'FRANKFURT' showing stock prices for various companies like Allianz, Commerzbank, and others.

LONDON

Table titled 'LONDON' showing stock prices for various companies like Abbey National, Anglo Irish, and others.

MADRID

Table titled 'MADRID' showing stock prices for various companies like BBV, Banco Central, and others.

MILAN

Table titled 'MILAN' showing stock prices for various companies like Agnelli, Alitalia, and others.

MONTECARLO

Table titled 'MONTECARLO' showing stock prices for various companies like Agnelli, Alitalia, and others.

PARIS

Table titled 'PARIS' showing stock prices for various companies like Air France, Bouygues, and others.

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When Luxury Goods Go Bad

LVMH Is Bracing for Another Tough Year

By Jacques Neher
Special to the Herald Tribune

PARIS — With economic storms swirling through Europe and Japan, LVMH Moët Hennessy-Louis Vuitton, the world's premier luxury-goods conglomerate, is bracing for another difficult year in 1993. "I think 1993 will be a tough year for the world economy, and we are ready to live through it," said Bernard Arnault, chairman of the company that groups such brands as Moët & Chandon and Veuve Clicquot champagne, Hennessy cognac, Christian Dior and Givenchy perfumes and Vuitton luggage.

He said that a global economic performance similar to that of 1992 would likely mean that there would be no improvement in LVMH's earnings this year.

On Thursday, the company, as expected, posted a 20 percent decline in net earnings, to 3.0 billion francs (\$513 million), and a nearly 2 percent fall in sales, to 21.66 billion francs. The profit decline was accentuated by a 37 percent drop in Guinness PLC's contribution to earnings. LVMH has a 24 percent stake in Guinness.

LVMH shares rose 2.2 percent, to 3,442 francs, which one analyst

explained as speculators "buying on a recovery fantasy."

They may have also been intrigued by Mr. Arnault's statement that the Vuitton family interests may have sold a portion of their shares in recent months. The family was last known to hold around 9 percent of LVMH stock, but Mr. Arnault said it now has "a few percent."

"If the market is buying, it's not because they think the company's operations are improving," said Loïc Morvan, analyst with DLP-James Capel in Paris. He added that 1993 "will certainly be a difficult year for champagne and cognac."

He said the "big question" was whether the decline in spirits sales to the Japanese market could be compensated for by growth of sales to other Far East markets.

The company reported a 17 percent drop in Japanese cognac sales, to 1.16 billion francs, while shipments plunged 28 percent. Japan accounts for one-fifth of LVMH's total cognac business, which was off 11 percent to 5.55 billion francs.

Michael Oertli, analyst with UBS Phillips & Drew in London, said the decline in cognac sales to Japan was worrisome because it

could signal not just a reaction to a temporary belt-tightening — a good part of cognac business flows from corporate-entertainment budgets — but to a change in consumption habits.

"The Japanese had been paying up to \$300 a bottle for cognac, but they now may have gotten used to paying 500 for brandy instead," Mr. Oertli said. "This poses a long-term threat for LVMH."

But Mr. Arnault said habits, built up over a long time, were not likely to change. "When the Japanese economy comes back — I mean very when — our market share will be maintained and sales will come back," he said.

The company's champagne sales fell 6 percent to 5.24 billion francs and operating profit in wine and spirits plunged 41 percent to 780 million francs.

The one bright spot for LVMH was its perfume and beauty-product business, which reported a 13 percent jump in sales, to 5.49 billion francs, and a 27 percent jump in operating profit, to 809 million francs. Sales at LVMH's leather-goods business declined 3 percent to 4.7 billion francs.

Surprise Rights Issue For Ahold Investors

By Barbara Smit
Special to the Herald Tribune

ZAANDAM, Netherlands — Ahold NV, the Dutch food retailer, surprised investors on Thursday by asking them to subscribe to a one-for-10 rights issue to shore up its balance sheet. The chairman, Cees van der Hoeven, had previously declared the company would only resort to such a move to finance a major acquisition.

"The issue was unexpected but there is no reason to be pessimistic about it," said Heinie Hakker, an analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd. "Ahold needed to redress its balance sheet, and they are the type of people who will make good use of the money to strengthen their company."

[In Amsterdam, however, traders were pessimistic. Reuters reported. They pushed the company's stock down to 95.40 guilders (\$51.01), a loss of 2.50 guilders on the day, despite Ahold's assurance the issue would not dilute per-share earnings and the better-than-expected 1992 result, also reported Thursday.]

The company said its earnings rose 10.6 percent last year, to 305 million guilders. Revenue grew to 22.3 billion guilders from 20.8 billion in 1991, and about half of last year's sales were in the United States. Mr. Van der Hoeven said he was pleased with the results, and he predicted further improvements this year.

The 5.1 million new shares, which will not be registered in the United States, are expected to raise 400 million to 500 million guilders. The chairman admitted Ahold had established a wish list of acquisitions in the United States and Southern Europe, but he claimed these would be financed with external

funds, such as bank loans.

According to Mr. Van der Hoeven, stockholders' equity has been weakened by a string of purchases that cost the company about 589 million guilders in goodwill charges in the last two years. Goodwill is the amount paid to acquire a company in excess of its tangible net assets.

"The issue is meant to neutralize the effect of acquisitions in the past, and it will not be dilutive on a yearly basis," he explained.

Despite troubles at First National Supermarkets, Ahold's operating profit rose 16.8 percent, to \$169.6 million last year in the United States. Meanwhile, cutbacks within the Dutch chain Albert Heijn helped achieve a 14 percent increase in operating profit in the Netherlands, to 222 million guilders.

"Ahold is coping very well with the market difficulties," said Mr. Hakker. "Some problems remain in the United States, but Ahold is dealing with them firmly." The dividend for 1992 has been raised to 1.15 guilders and 45 U.S. cents per share.

■ **Reed Elsevier Profit Up**

Reed Elsevier, the British-Dutch publishing company, said its 1992 pretax profit rose 19 percent, to £412 million (\$596.99 million), on a pro forma basis, Bloomberg Business News reported from London.

The company is the result of the merger of Reed International PLC, which took place on Jan. 1. The merged company is reporting pro forma combined financial statements to "help familiarize shareholders with the financial profile of the combined businesses."

The companies continue to trade separately, with Reed holding a 52.9 percent stake in the merged concern and Elsevier, 47.1 percent.

Lufthansa Reduces Its Loss

United Press International

BONN — Lufthansa's cost cuts helped it reduce its pretax loss in 1992 to about 300 million Deutsche marks (\$181 million), from 330 million DM the previous year, the German airline said Thursday.

The preliminary report showed that the net loss also narrowed, by about 60 million DM to about 380 million DM.

A spokesman said that the operating loss would be published by Jürgen Weber, head of the airline, but that the operating loss would total about 1.2 billion DM.

In a highly unusual move in Germany, Lufthansa employees took a voluntary pay cut late last year, in a bid to help save the troubled airline and their jobs. Lufthansa sold off part of its fleet and engaged in a rationalization program.

Lufthansa said it transported 27.9 million passengers in 1992, 11.3 percent more than the previous year, and 1 million tons of freight, up 6.1 percent. But sales increased only 4.5 percent to 15 billion DM, a disappointing figure that Lufthansa attributed to tight international competition.

■ **BASF Is Downbeat**

BASF AG does not expect an improvement in sales and earnings in 1993, Chief Executive Jürgen Strube said Thursday, according to a Bloomberg Business News report from Ludwigshafen, Germany.

"The development of the first two months confirms our view that 1993 will be a year of recession in Western Europe," he said. As a result, he said, BASF will speed up its restructuring program.

BASF's group sales dropped 10 percent to about 7 billion DM in the first two months.

Net profit plummeted 40.8 percent to 615 million DM in 1992. Group sales declined 4.5 percent to 44.52 billion DM for the year.

Investor's Europe			
Frankfurt DAX	London FTSE 100 Index	Paris CAC 40	
1700	2000	2100	
1600	1900	2000	
1500	1800	1900	
1400	1700	1800	
1300	1600	1700	
1200	1500	1600	
1100	1400	1500	
1000	1300	1400	
900	1200	1300	
800	1100	1200	
700	1000	1100	
600	900	1000	
500	800	900	
400	700	800	
300	600	700	
200	500	600	
100	400	500	
0	300	400	

Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Change
Amsterdam	CBS 100	107.80	+1.20
Brussels	Stock Index	6,288.17	+223.00
Frankfurt	DAX	1,898.18	+165.06
Frankfurt	FAZ	667.18	+67.05
Helsinki	HEX	1,012.18	+95.16
London	Financial Times 30	2,247.30	+248.00
London	FTSE 100	2,878.70	+289.90
Madrid	General Index	238.40	+24.00
Milan	MIB	1,101.50	+105.00
Paris	CAC 40	1,993.52	+187.26
Stockholm	Alfa Index	1,192.78	+195.22
Vienna	Stock Index	383.99	+31.45
Zurich	SBS	733.60	+72.30

Sources: Reuters, AFP
International Herald Tribune

Very Briefly:

- Cadbury Schweppes PLC named Dominic Cadbury executive chairman and David Wellings chief executive, effective May 3.
- Daimler-Benz's Deutsche Aerospace AG unit said it expected world airlines to buy 16,800 aircraft by the year 2012 to replace aging planes and for increased passenger travel.
- Comptoir des Entrepreneurs SA will price its planned 800 million French franc (\$143 million) reserved rights issue at 219 francs per share, raising its capital to 792.9 million francs from 427.6 million.
- Klockner-Werke AG said its steel unit Klockner Stahl GmbH had closed one of its two flat-steel blast furnaces in Bremen as part of a cost-cutting and rationalization program.
- The Dutch Central Economic Commission has recommended that the government sell off shares in state-owned companies in a bid to meet its mandated target of cutting 9 billion guilders (\$4.8 billion) from the 1994 budget deficit.
- Svenska Cellulosa AB reported a 1992 profit after depreciation of 2.03 billion kronor (\$267 million), compared with 2.72 billion a year earlier.

Hermès Plans June Listing on 2d-Tier Market

Bloomberg Business News

PARIS — Hermès, the French luxury-goods house, confirmed Thursday it would be listed on the Paris secondary market in June.

Hermès stock is currently unlisted.

Underwriting the placement will be Banque Nationale de Paris, Banque Française du Commerce Extérieur and Banque Hottinguer, the company said. Some 20 percent of the share capital will be floated.

In a report that Hermès declined to deny or confirm, the French daily Les Echos quoted a company executive, Jean-Louis Demes, as saying that the flotation would be used to finance the company's future development, since Hermès has no debt load.

Hermès had 1992 sales of about 2.5 billion French francs (\$446 million).

Guinness, Too, Suffers From Economic Slump

Reuters

LONDON — Guinness PLC on Thursday reported a 12 percent drop in 1992 pretax profit, citing recession and restructuring charges. The brewer and spirits distiller cautioned that conditions this year were unlikely to be better.

Guinness, which boasts top brands such as Johnnie Walker whisky, Gordon's gin and Guinness stout, pushed its annual dividend up 10 percent to 11.85 pence a share as a measure of its long-term confidence.

But the stock slipped 21 pence to 464 pence, reflecting caution about the current year.

Guinness's pretax profit dipped to 2795 million (\$1.2 billion) from 1991's restated £200 million, following a charge flagged earlier this year to reorganize its Scottish whisky and Spanish brewing operations.

Revenue climbed 7 percent to £4.36 billion.

"On balance, I don't think that the market conditions that we face in 1993 are going to be any better than they were in 1992," said the chairman, Tony Greener.

Mr. Greener added that improvements in the U.S. market, especially in the second half of 1992, would be offset by worsening conditions in continental European markets such as Germany and Spain, and the depressed Japanese market.

Despite this, Mr. Greener expects to make steady progress in 1993, supported by intense marketing and cost-cutting.

Chief among the cost-reduction measures was the exceptional charge of £125 million, which would cover a cut of 15 percent of the work force, or 500 jobs, at the Cruzcampo brewing operation in Spain, and a cut of 700 jobs and the closure of distilleries and bottling plants in Scotland.

Mr. Greener said Guinness's underlying profits declined due to higher interest charges after a string of acquisitions in 1991. Another factor that hurt was a 20 percent slide in profit at LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SA, in which Guinness has a 24 percent cross-shareholding.

Rieter Rejects Accord With Swiss Rival

AFP-Extel News

WINTERTHUR, Switzerland — Rieter Holding AG said Thursday that cooperation with Saurer-Gruppe Holding AG would not be a "sensible strategy" and stressed that it would remain an independent company.

The statement came as Saurer said that it had raised its stake in Rieter to 13 percent from 6.8 per-

cent and said that, although the increase did not signal a takeover attempt, industrial cooperation would strengthen the competitiveness of both companies.

Earlier, a Saurer spokesman had said the company was expanding its stake to between 15 percent and 20 percent.

An analyst at Bank Vontobel, Thomas Pyl, said a merger between the two textile machinery groups appears unlikely.

"For one, the EC Commission would object to any such merger on competition grounds, since both companies have facilities in the Community," he said.

Fiat Rules Out Rights Issue

Bloomberg Business News

SANTA MARGHERITA, Italy — The chief executive of Fiat Auto, Paolo Cantarella, has said that the carmaker does not plan to sell new shares to swell its finances, a Fiat SpA spokesman said Thursday.

"Fiat has its accounts in order," Mr. Cantarella was quoted as saying at a demonstration of Fiat's new Delta car. "to confront and overcome difficulties down the road with its own cash flow and without asking for capital increases."

The Fiat executive noted that the group's 10-year, 40 trillion lire (\$25 billion) investment plan was already in place. Olivetti SpA stunned investors earlier this week with a huge rights issue, leading to fears that Fiat might do the same.

NYSE

Thursday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div.	Yield	PE	52	High	Low	Latest	Change
100	100	IBM	3.00	3.00	12.5	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Microsoft	0.00	0.00	15.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Apple	0.00	0.00	10.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Oracle	0.00	0.00	12.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Sun	0.00	0.00	11.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Novell	0.00	0.00	13.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Lotus	0.00	0.00	14.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Intuit	0.00	0.00	15.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Perseus	0.00	0.00	16.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	WorldCom	0.00	0.00	17.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Verizon	0.00	0.00	18.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	WorldNet	0.00	0.00	19.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Comcast	0.00	0.00	20.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Time Warner	0.00	0.00	21.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Turner	0.00	0.00	22.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	23.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	24.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	25.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	26.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	27.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	28.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	29.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	30.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	31.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	32.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	33.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	34.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	35.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	36.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	37.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	38.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	39.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	40.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	41.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	42.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	43.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	44.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	45.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	46.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	47.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	48.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	49.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	50.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	51.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	52.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	53.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	54.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	55.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	56.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	57.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	58.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	59.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	60.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	61.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	62.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	63.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	64.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	65.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	66.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	67.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	68.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	69.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	70.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	71.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	72.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	73.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Wal-Mart	0.00	0.00	74.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Kroger	0.00	0.00	75.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Target	0.00	0.00	76.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Walmart	0.00	0.00	77.0	100	100	100	100	0
100	100	Home Depot	0.00	0.00	78.0					

AMEX

Thursday's Closing Tables include the... Tables include the... do not reflect late trades elsewhere.

Table with columns: 12 Month High Low Stock, Div, Yld, PE, 52 High, 52 Low, Last, Change. Lists various stocks and their performance.

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Advertisement for 'HIGH TECHNOLOGY & PROFITABILITY FOR THE 21st CENTURY' conference in Hong Kong, May 17-18, 1993. Includes a list of speakers and topics.

Advertisement for 'The Russian leadership crisis' and 'EC-US trade tensions'. Includes a subscription offer for the International Herald Tribune.

SPORTS ATHLETICS

The Butch Reynolds Case: Settlement in Store Soon?

By Filip Bondy
New York Times Service

ATLANTA — The Butch Reynolds case is moving quickly toward its climax, with a settlement likely soon to head off a potentially embarrassing confrontation Friday at the International Olympic Committee meetings.

Reynolds was awarded \$27.3 million in December in his lawsuit against the International Amateur Athletic Federation, and talks recently between the two sides have led to considerable pressure on Primo Nebiolo, president of the IAAF, for a compromise agreement.

"It is a matter for the IAAF," said Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee, said in an interview here Wednesday. "But I am hopeful it will be settled very soon."

There is reason for haste on the part of IAAF negotiators. David Young, a lawyer for Reynolds, said Wednesday from his Columbus, Ohio, office that his firm would consider employing a legal processor to serve a summons to Nebiolo at his scheduled news conference here Friday.

Nebiolo is making his first appearance in the United States since a Federal District Court in Columbus ruled in favor of Reynolds in a suit attacking his two-year suspension from the sport. Reynolds was banished after a positive drug-test result at a meet in Monte Carlo in 1990.

Nebiolo, who lives in Rome, has said until recently that the IAAF

would not recognize the findings of the U.S. courts. But Reynolds's lawyers have begun to contact corporations in the United States with sponsorship ties to the IAAF, and are plotting other strategies to make Nebiolo's life miserable.

"It's something worth considering," Young said of the notion of serving Nebiolo with legal papers Friday. "We'll have to watch developments in the next couple of days. There's some potential for an amicable settlement. The time may well be ripe for resolution."

The Reynolds case impacted Wednesday on a session of the IOC executive board, where members backed away from a proposal to carry out blood testing at the 1994 Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway. Instead, blood will be drawn only from the arms of skiers, who already are being tested in this fashion by their governing body.

The decision represented a tactical switch by Alexandre de Merode, head of the IOC medical commission, who historically has urged the use of blood testing on all athletes at the Olympics.

"The legal environment has changed a lot in the last few years," de Merode said. "When you meet barriers, you step back a little. It's responsible to start an operation that's not ready to be implemented. Only a stupid person never changes his mind."

De Merode said the commission would continue to study blood doping, and other forms of tests,

including one that would use hair follicles to detect illegal drug use. "Anti-doping methods cannot be built in a day," he said.

Krabbe Gets a Boost

Karin Krabbe's hopes of avoiding a four-year doping ban received a boost Thursday when it was revealed that influential scientific reports backed up her case that she had not taken banned steroids. Reuters reported from Bonn.

The German double world sprint champion was suspended with teammates Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr in September after testing positive for the drug clenbuterol, which some scientists argue is a stimulant and not an anabolic steroid.

A German athletics source, who is very close to the case, said that two of three independent reports ordered by the arbitrating panel clearly stated that the drug was a stimulant, some of which are allowed during training.

The German athletics federation panel, which is expected to announce its decision this month, has put a great deal of emphasis on the findings of the reports.

"Two of the three experts definitely say in the reports that clenbuterol is not a steroid," the source, who did not want to be identified, said. "On the basis of nothing has happened and she should be free."

Krabbe's manager, Jos Hermens, and the panel president, Wolfgang Schoeppe, have refused to comment on the findings of the reports.



Veteran forward Esa Tikkanen of Finland was obtained by the New York Rangers, who are gearing up for the playoffs, in a straight player swap for promising center Doug Weight.

The NHL's European Facelift

New, Fast-Skating Players Are Transforming Hockey

The Associated Press

With Buffalo's Alexander Mogilny, Winnipeg's Teemu Selanne and Vancouver's Pavel Bure blazing new trails, Europeans have left a distinctive mark on the National Hockey League this season.

"They've changed the face of the game," says Boston defenseman Ray Bourque.

Of course, Europeans have played in the NHL for many years, but never have so many done so much in so little time. Mogilny, Selanne and Bure are not only the top Europeans these days, they're also topping everyone else — Canadians and Americans alike — with their scoring exploits.

Mogilny, a Russian, leads the NHL with 69 goals, while Selanne, a Finn, has 62 so far in his record-breaking rookie season. Bure, another Russian, had been battling with Mogilny in a brilliant goal-scoring race for most of the season until Selanne stormed into the picture. Bure, with 53 goals, is the first 50-goal scorer in Canucks history and recently broke the franchise record for points in a season.

Selanne's 54th goal broke Mike Bossy's single-season rookie record of 53, and he virtually is assured of breaking the rookie points record of Peter Stastny, another European from Czechoslovakia. Stastny scored 109 points with the Quebec Nordiques; so far, Selanne has 105 with 13 games to go.

While European players have had great seasons in the past, such as Finland's Jari Kurri and Stastny, at no time in NHL history have so many players from outside North America dominated the league as they have this season.

"NHL hockey has gradually become a quicker, faster tempo, somewhat tailor-made for the Europeans to come over and play," says Winnipeg's general manager, Mike Smith.

"There isn't as much played in the trenches anymore. It's more of a flow game, a transition game." And few make the transition as well as Mogilny, Bure and Selanne. Some believe Mogilny, 24, is the fastest skater in the league, although Detroit's Sergei

Fedorov, a Russian, edged him in last season's skills competition at the All-Star Game. Bure also is a breakout threat at all times, and Selanne, 22, certainly is no slouch when it comes to speed.

Bure, 21, was last year's NHL rookie of the year. Selanne presumably will be this year.

Selanne has carried over success from home in establishing an immediate presence in the NHL. He twice was player of the year in the Finnish Elitserien and led the league in scoring and Jokertit to the league title.

Bure also made an immediate impact, and continues to prove his initial season was no fluke. Clearly, he has improved after a 60-point season in 1991-92 that included 34 goals.

Mogilny took some time to reach his potential. On May 2, 1989, he risked his career to defect from the then-Soviet Union to join the NHL.

"He does things on the ice that I've never seen people do," said linemate Pat LaFontaine, who once played with the likes of Mike Bossy and Bryan Trottier with the New York Islanders.

The emergence of great European talent in the NHL is the result of a socio-political phenomenon, of course. When the Soviet Union disbanded, players whom the NHL fantasized about for so many years became available almost overnight.

In 1967-68, slightly more than 1 percent of the league was composed of players born outside of North America. This year, that figure is more than 17 percent, many of them from Eastern Europe. In the next two seasons, the figure is expected to swell until former Soviet players represent 20 percent, non-North Americans 30 percent or more.

"To me, the impact of the Russians has been tremendous," said Bob Pufford, senior vice president of the Chicago Blackhawks. "Every team has three, four and five Europeans because they are skill players. In order to stay up with what's going on across the Atlantic in recruiting."

Ryan Still Speedy at 46, Striking Out 4 Yankees

The Associated Press

If his latest outing is typical, Nolan Ryan has lost none of his stuff at age 46.

"This was important for me," Ryan said after allowing one hit in five shutout innings against a New York Yankees' split squad on Wednesday night. "I backed off my program a little bit because of the weather. I needed to throw to live hitters."

Ryan struck out four and walked none. The only hit he allowed was Pat Kelly's sharp single with two outs in the third.

"I was a little concerned about my command, because I haven't been out there for a while, but it felt more toward my stamina," said Ryan, who threw over 90 miles per hour. "I had good command. When I got behind, I threw the ball in spots I needed."

Ryan combined with three relievers on a two-hitter as the Rangers' split squad won 1-0 at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Donald Harris' RBI triple in the third.

Orel Hershiser was pleased, too. He had a so-so outing in the Dodgers' 8-5 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies at Vero Beach, but Los Angeles manager Tommy Lasorda said Hershiser probably would

pitch against the Florida Marlins on opening day.

"I think he deserves it," Lasorda said. "It's against an expansion club, which will make it a historic day. He's been the leader of our staff, and a tremendous guy and a great role model without question."

Hershiser has pitched on opening day twice in his 10-year career, in 1987 and 1990. This start, he said, would be historic for him personally because of his personal comeback.

"It would be an honor," Hershiser said. "But for me personally, it would be very significant. It would mean that I've come all the way back and that I'm a strong part of the staff again."

In St. Petersburg, Florida, both Canseco brothers had great days. Ozzie, Jose's twin brother, hit a three-run homer in the fourth inning and added an RBI single as the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Rangers' split squad 7-1.

"Everything's coming together," said Ozzie, who is battling Brian Jordan for the right field job in St. Louis.

Jose, his younger brother — by just two minutes — had three hits and drove in Texas' only run in the third off Bob Tewksbury, who allowed four hits in four innings.

SIDELINES

St. Jovite Retired With Tendon Injury

LONDON (Reuters) — St. Jovite, the European horse of the year in 1992, is to be retired to stud after injuring a tendon during a workout in preparation for a racing campaign in the United States.

The 4-year-old was due to make his American debut in May after spending the winter at owner Virginia Kraft Payson's training center in Florida.

He was being trained by Roger Attfield, who said that "St. Jovite worked an easy mile at Gulfstream Park on Sunday, March 7. Sometime after the work it was discovered that an old injury to the tendon had appeared."

ITF Turns Down Swiss Cup Plea

GENEVA (AP) — The International Tennis Federation rejected Thursday the Swiss team's request to call off its Davis Cup series against India in Calcutta next week because of recent bombings in the country.

A Swiss tennis federation spokesman, Daniel Monnin, said the ITF told the team it must show up for the first-round World Group series, March 26-28, after Wednesday's blast in Calcutta.

The Swiss team will travel to India "hoping for the best," Monnin said. He said Indian tennis authorities told the London-based ITF that the players' safety would be guaranteed.

For the Record

Diego Maradona, the Argentine soccer star, and his former manager, Guillermo Coppola, could be indicted for drug trafficking, the Rome daily La Repubblica said reported Thursday, for an alleged shipment of 3 kilograms (6.6 pounds) of cocaine from Argentina to Italy in 1991. (AP)

Indian tax police searched the headquarters of the Italian first division club Fiorentina this week in a probe of multi-million-dollar player contracts, police said Thursday.

Jodanis, an 8-1 chance ridden by Mark Dwyer, overtook Rushing Wild, the leader from the start, after the last of the 22 fences and won the Cheltenham Gold Cup in England by two lengths Thursday. (Reuters)

Quotable

• Dusty Baker, the San Francisco Giants' manager, on Barry Bonds' attitude: "He doesn't have to march to the same drummer as long as he's in the same band."

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	43	18	.705	
New Jersey	37	26	.587	7
Boston	34	28	.548	9 1/2
Orlando	29	32	.475	14
Atlanta	22	39	.359	21
Philadelphia	20	41	.328	23
Washington	18	43	.295	25

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Chicago	43	20	.683	
Cleveland	41	22	.651	2
Charlotte	33	29	.532	7 1/2
Altoona	32	30	.519	8 1/2
Indiana	30	32	.484	10 1/2
Detroit	28	34	.452	12 1/2
Milwaukee	24	38	.381	17

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	41	21	.661	
San Antonio	39	23	.629	1 1/2
Utah	35	27	.567	5 1/2
Denver	25	37	.403	16
Minnesota	15	47	.242	26
Dallas	5	57	.081	34

Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Phoenix	47	14	.770	
Seattle	43	20	.683	4
Portland	36	24	.600	10 1/2
LA Lakers	33	29	.532	14 1/2
LA Clippers	31	31	.492	17
Sacramento	25	37	.403	23 1/2
Sacramento	20	42	.323	27 1/2

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	24	17	.585	
New York	21	27	.435	13 1/2
Washington	19	29	.396	15 1/2
Charlotte	18	30	.379	16 1/2
Orlando	17	31	.354	17 1/2
Philadelphia	16	32	.336	18 1/2
Atlanta	15	33	.318	19 1/2
Washington	14	34	.294	20 1/2
Charlotte	13	35	.271	21 1/2
Orlando	12	36	.248	22 1/2
Philadelphia	11	37	.225	23 1/2
Atlanta	10	38	.202	24 1/2
Washington	9	39	.179	25 1/2
Charlotte	8	40	.156	26 1/2
Orlando	7	41	.133	27 1/2
Philadelphia	6	42	.110	28 1/2
Atlanta	5	43	.087	29 1/2
Washington	4	44	.064	30 1/2
Charlotte	3	45	.041	31 1/2
Orlando	2	46	.018	32 1/2
Philadelphia	1	47	.005	33 1/2

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W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	25	17	.595	
New York	22	24	.479	3 1/2
Washington	20	26	.435	7 1/2
Charlotte	19	27	.412	8 1/2
Orlando	18	28	.391	9 1/2
Philadelphia	17	29	.368	10 1/2
Atlanta	16	30	.345	11 1/2
Washington	15	31	.322	12 1/2
Charlotte	14	32	.299	13 1/2
Orlando	13	33	.276	14 1/2
Philadelphia	12	34	.253	15 1/2
Atlanta	11	35	.230	16 1/2
Washington	10	36	.207	17 1/2
Charlotte	9	37	.184	18 1/2
Orlando	8	38	.161	19 1/2
Philadelphia	7	39	.138	20 1/2
Atlanta	6	40	.115	21 1/2
Washington	5	41	.092	22 1/2
Charlotte	4	42	.069	23 1/2
Orlando	3	43	.046	24 1/2
Philadelphia	2	44	.023	25 1/2
Atlanta	1	45	.000	26 1/2

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Atlanta	1	45	.000	26 1/2

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

WALEN CONFERENCE				
Patrick Division				
W	L	T	Pts	
Pittsburgh	42	21	4	87
Washington	37	26	3	77
NY Rangers	31	21	11	74
New Jersey	30	30	4	64
NY Islanders	28	32	6	62
Philadelphia	26	32	11	63

Adams Division				
W	L	T	Pts	
St. Louis	42	22	0	84
St. Paul	39	25	2	80

SPORTS BASKETBALL

Prost Escapes Penalty

Driver's Apology Accepted by FISA

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
PARIS — Auto racing's international governing body decided Thursday not to take action against three-time world champion Alain Prost, three months after the merciful Frenchman criticized sport officials in an interview.

Prost had risked being fined or suspended from competition over comments appearing in a French magazine in January in which he called racing officials "lackeys" and said the sport was dominated by "sheer greed."

The World Motor Council of the International Auto Sports Federation met Thursday to discuss Prost's comments, which some officials found disparaging to the sport.

"The World Council heard Mr. Prost and decided unanimously to accept the explanations of the driver," said Max Mosley, FISA's president.

"The issue of this notorious article is over. The world championship will begin without this discussion and in a positive atmosphere," Mosley said.

Prost had criticized the sport's hierarchy in an interview published in January in the French magazine *Auto Plus*.

He was quoted as saying that Formula One racing "is too badly managed. It's not normal that it should be Bernie Ecclestone, the boss of a Formula One manufacturer's syndicate who no longer exists... who decides everything."

Prost was also quoted as saying, "Bernie Ecclestone takes decisions which are exactly the opposite of what ought to be done."

Prost however offered the motor council a tape of original interview, which he said showed his statements were not as harsh as they were portrayed.

Prost, tempted first to champion the cause of an athlete's freedom of speech, opted for discretion and apologized.

"From time to time, you have to put your pride to one side," he explained. "It was never my intention to defame anyone."

It was a far cry from the Prost who had thrown down the gauntlet by saying: "After being in motor racing for 20 years, Formula One for 12 and winning 44 grands prix and three world titles, I think I have the right to express my opinions."

Mosley, accompanied by Prost at a news conference after the hearing, said: "The more contact we have the more I'm convinced that we can understand each other. He's an intelligent character and very efficient."

Mosley added: "The explanations of Mr. Prost and his sporting spirit impressed the World Council."

Following the decision, Prost said he was relieved and that "we need to forget these discussions. It is important to go to Brazil and speak about sport again."

Prost came back to Grand Prix racing after taking a year off. He was fined by Ferrari after criticizing that team's performance throughout 1991.

This week he won the opening race of the 1993 season at the South African Grand Prix in a Williams-Renault. It was his 45th victory, a Formula One record. The next race is the Brazilian Grand Prix on March 28.

Prost, who won world championships in 1985, 1986 and 1990 with McLaren, went to the Williams and British star driver Nigel Mansell could not agree on a contract.

Mansell won the driving title last year and helped Williams win the constructors' crown.

Prost's McLaren years ended bitterly because of a personality clash with Brazilian teammate Ayrton Senna that was so explosive that it led to more than one crash on the track.

His final year with the British team, 1989, was marred by constant complaints that it was favoring Senna. (AP, Reuters)



Shawnelle Scott got past Texas Tech's Will Flemmons for two points as St. John's won, 85-67.

Kansas, St. John's and Florida St. Pass First Tests in NCAA Tourney

The Associated Press
Adonis Jordan and Steve Woodberry sparked a 10-2 second-half run Thursday and second-seeded Kansas pulled away from 15th seed Ball State for a 94-72 victory in the NCAA Midwest Regional opener in Rosemont, Illinois.

Rex Walters made six 3-pointers and scored 23 points for Kansas (26-6), which was stunned by Texas-El Paso in the second round of last season's NCAA tournament.

The Jayhawks, the nation's ninth-ranked team, play Saturday against Brigham Young.

Jermal Sylvester and Jamie Matthews scored 18 points each for Ball State (26-8), which was seeking to match its tourney success of 1990 when it upset Oregon State and Louisville before a two-point loss to eventual champion UNLV.

The Cardinals trailed by only 57-56 before Jordan's 3-pointer with 14:19 to play began the sprint that put Kansas in command. After Sylvester scored, Woodberry hit a 3-pointer, stole a pass and fed Jordan for a fastbreak lay-up. Jordan capped the run with another 3-pointer for a 68-58 lead.

Brigham Young 80, Southern Methodist 71; Brigham Young led all the way but allowed Southern Methodist to draw close several times before pulling out the second game in Rosemont.

The Cougars (25-8) were led by Gary Trost's 26 points.

Southern Methodist (20-8) trailed by as many as 14 in the opening half, but drew within two points early in the second half.

The Cougars responded with a 3-pointer from Trost and a jam by Russell Larson to go in front, 46-39.

Gerald Lewis had back-to-back baskets for the Mustangs to close the gap to 52-50, but BYU got a basket from Trost to go up 55-50, then went on a 6-0 run for a 61-51 lead.

SMU used three straight turnovers for a 7-0 run that narrowed the deficit to 74-69, but the Cougars held on by making 13 of 16 free throws down the stretch.

EAST REGIONAL
St. John's 85, Texas Tech 67; Reserve guard Carl Beckett sparked a late run to help St. John's pull away in the last nine minutes in the first game in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

The fifth-seeded Redmen (19-10) won for the fifth time in seven games and advanced to Saturday's second round against Arkansas.

St. John's held 12th-seeded Texas Tech to two field goals in the final 10 minutes. The Red Raiders missed 23 of 24 shots from the field in one stretch.

The Redmen broke open a close game by scoring 24 of the last 32 points. Beckett scored six of the Redmen's first nine points as they pulled away from a 61-59 lead.

Texas Tech (18-12) was making its first NCAA tournament appearance since 1986 and was seeking its first victory in the event in 17 years.

Instead, the Red Raiders lost to a Big East team in the first round for the third consecutive time.

Texas Tech, which won the Southwest Conference tournament, ended its winningest season since 1985.

David Cain had a triple-double with 12 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists. Derek Brown led St. John's in scoring with 17 points.

Will Flemmons led Texas Tech with 26 points.

No. 12 Arkansas 94, Holy Cross 64; Corliss Williamson continued his recovery from an early-season foot injury by scoring 19 points as the No. 4 seed Razorbacks (21-8) advanced to play St. John's.

Williamson, a freshman who returned to action Jan. 23 after missing 13 games with a stress fracture of his left foot, rebounded from

two poor-shooting games in the Southeastern Conference tournament.

The Razorbacks, who received an at-large bid, used runs of 11-0 and 10-0 in the game's first 12 1/2 minutes to grab a 29-10 lead. Holy Cross committed six turnovers during the first half and finished with 12 for the half.

The 13th-seeded Crusaders (23-7), playing in their first NCAA tournament game since 1980, had averaged more than 92 points over their last 17 games, but Arkansas' trapping defense put Holy Cross in a defensive mode from the start.

Holy Cross hasn't won an NCAA tournament game in 40 years, losing five straight.

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL
Florida St. 82, Evansville 76; Sam Cassell scored 18 points and Charlie Ward had 15 to pace a balanced attack that carried Florida State to victory in the first round in Orlando, Florida.

Doug Edwards finished with 14 points and 12 rebounds and Rodney Doherty had 13 points and six blocked shots for the Seminoles (23-9), who advanced to Saturday's second round against Tulane.

Florida State, seeded third, regained its shooting touch and shut down Evansville (23-7) with relentless defensive pressure.

Tulane 55, Kansas St. 53; Matt Greene's three-point play with less than a minute left put Tulane ahead, then Pointer Williams preserved the victory with his defense in the second game in Colorado.

Tulane (22-8), the 11th seed, pulled off a first-round upset for the second year in a row with his victory over No. 6 seed Kansas State (19-11).

The second half saw 12 lead changes and three ties before Tulane went ahead for good with 52.7 seconds left.

Williams drove the baseline and passed off to Greene, who banked in the shot despite a foul by Anthony Beane. Greene made the free throw to put Tulane up, 54-53.

Vincent Jackson had a chance to win it for Kansas State, but his 10-

foot jumper was no good with about 10 seconds left. Tulane got the rebound and retained possession on a jump ball.

LaVedro Simmons was fouled by Kansas State and made one of two free throws with 5.3 seconds to go. The Wildcats pulled down the miss and Beane drove the floor looking to tie it. But as he pulled up to shoot just outside the foul line, Williams stripped the ball away as the horn sounded.

Ironically, Tulane's winning points came at the foul line. For the game, the Green Wave made only 4 of 13 from there.

WEST REGIONAL
Illinois 75, Long Beach St. 72; Reemie Clemons scored four points in the final 1:23 as Illinois overcame an upset Long Beach State in a first-round game in Salt Lake City.

Trailing by 70-69, Clemons drove the lane, ended up under the basket and flipped in a one-handed shot.

Lucious Harris was stripped of the ball on Long Beach's next possession, and Clemons scored again on the same type of shot to put Illinois ahead, 75-70, with 17.1 seconds remaining. Freshman Richard Keene made two free throws to seal the victory for the sixth-seeded Fighting Illini (19-12).

Illinois will meet the winner of the later Boise State-Vanderbilt game.

Deon Thomas led the Illini with 20 points and nine rebounds. Andy Kaufmann finished with 14 after going scoreless in the first half.

Harris led 11th-seeded Long Beach (22-10) with 27 points in the 49ers' first appearance in the NCAA tournament since 1977. Chris Tower added 17.

Rod Hamblitt tied the game for Long Beach at 67-67 by converting the second of two free throws with 2:40 to go.

Bryan Russell hit the second of two free throws and Harris scored on a driving lay-up to put Long Beach ahead, 70-69.

Clemons then scored the first of his two crucial baskets to end Long Beach's threat.

Paris, Dortmund Slip Into UEFA Cup Semifinals

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
Antoine Kombouare scored a goal six minutes into overtime Thursday night to put Paris-St. Germain into the semifinals of the UEFA Cup tournament after visiting Real Madrid had shocked the sell-out crowd at Parc des Princes into a stunned silence.

Paris-St. Germain appeared bound for the next round with a 3-0 at the end of regulation time. But in injury time, Real Madrid scored in the 92d minute when Ivan Zamorano, a Chilean striker, kicked the ball through the legs of Paris' goalkeeper Bernard Lama. That made it 3-1 for the match, and tied the teams in goal aggregate since Real Madrid had won the first leg, 3-1.

Four minutes later, however, Kombouare jumped high in front of a group of players on a Paris-St. Germain free kick and headed the ball past Paco Buyo, the Real Madrid goalkeeper.

That gave Paris-St. Germain a 4-1 victory as it advanced with a 5-4 goal aggregate.

George Weah of Liberia had given the home team a 1-0 lead in the 34th minute. Then, in the 51st minute David Ginola scored to make it 2-0 and Valdo added what was thought to be an insurance goal in the 89th minute before the fireworks started in injury time.

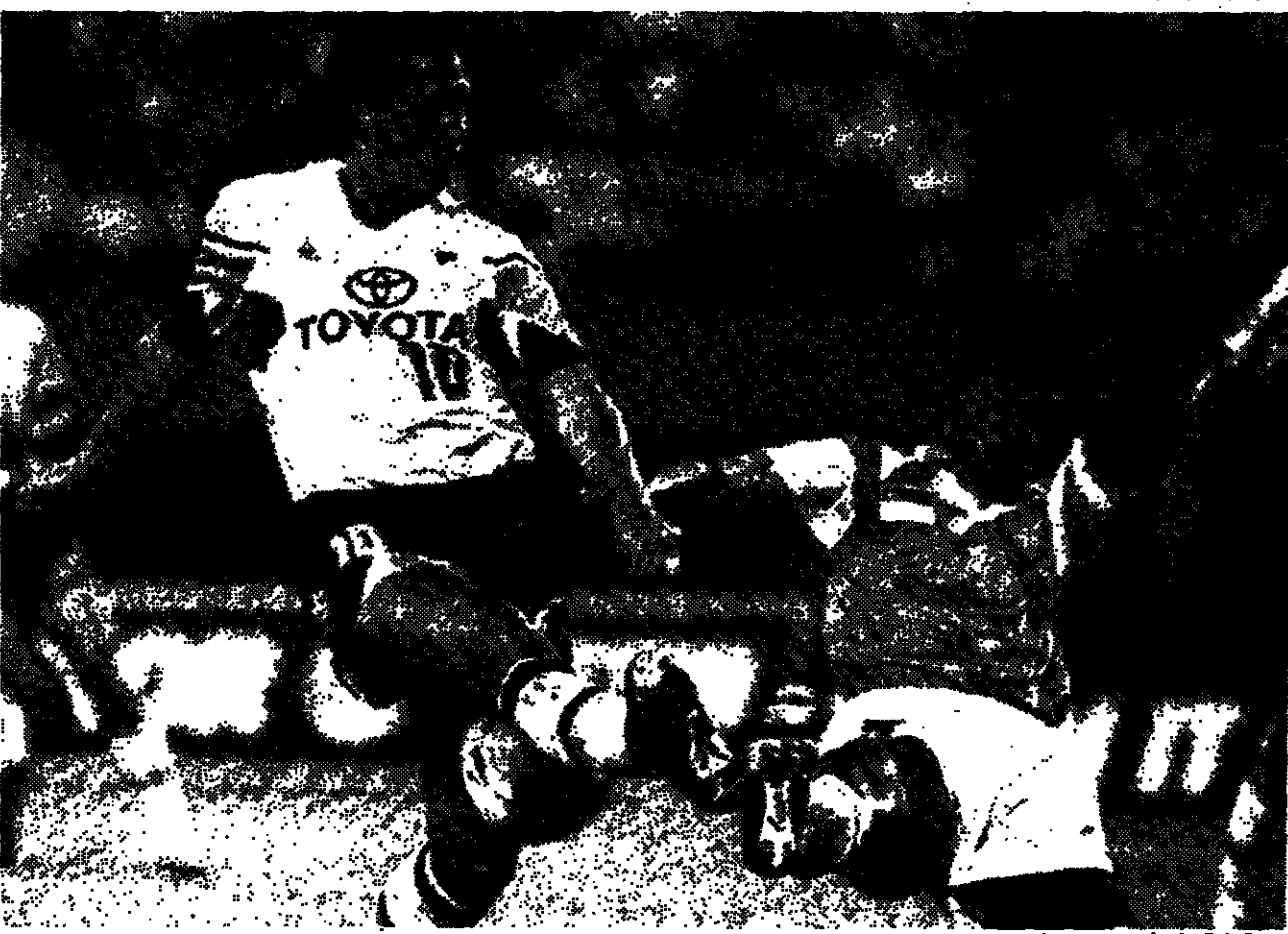
Borussia Dortmund 2, AS Roma 0; Goals five minutes on each side of halftime put Dortmund, playing at home, into the UEFA Cup semifinals.

Defender Michael Schulz had put Dortmund even on aggregate, following its 1-0 first-leg loss in Rome two weeks ago, with a left-foot shot into the corner from outside the box in the 41st minute.

Then Lothar Sippel, who got to play only because of an injury to Swiss striker Stephane Chapuisat, caught the Italian defense cold seconds after halftime when he headed home a cross from German international Knut Reinhardt.

Dortmund, Germany's only remaining club in the three European club competitions, still had to get through a nervous second half of pressure and uncompromising tackling from Roma.

The German team was lucky that



Gary Lineker and Razzali Sand both lost track of the ball during an exhibition match in Singapore that drew a sell-out crowd of 45,000 to see an eight-man side from the English star's new team, the Nagoya Grampus of J-League that will soon to begin playing in Japan.

Silvano Benedetti did not put Roma in the semifinals when his header hit the post in a turbulent 15-minute period following Sippel's goal.

Spartak Moscow 3, Feyenoord 1; Spartak booked a place in the semifinals of Cup Winners' Cup tournament in a violent match in which two players were sent off.

The second-leg quarterfinal contest was littered with foul fouls and finally exploded in the 87th minute when Spartak attacker Fyodor Cherenkov was sent off for kicking an opponent to the ground. Defender Ulrich van Gobbel of the

Dutch team was quick to follow Cherenkov from the field, ejected for fighting.

Spartak, which won by 4-1 on aggregate, made sure of its place in the last four with two goals in the last 10 minutes of the match, which was moved to Torpedo Moscow's stadium after being postponed on Wednesday because of a water-logged pitch.

Spartak increased its aggregate lead to 2-0 when Valer Karpin scored after just eight minutes, but the Dutch made the match score 1-6 six minutes later on a shot by

Hungarian international striker Jozsef Kiprich.

Spartak midfielder Igor Ladyzhov finally made sure of victory in the 80th minute when he rammed the ball into the net while virtually on the goal line after a free kick rebounded off the post.

In the dying seconds, striker Dmitri Radchenko sprinted 20 meters through a static defense before tucking the ball past goalkeeper Ed de Goey.

Atletico Madrid 3, Olympiakos 1; Manolo Sanchez Delgado scored twice to advance Atletico de Ma-

drid to the Cup Winners' Cup semifinals on a 4-2 aggregate score.

A sellout crowd of almost 70,000 in Madrid saw Manolo put his club ahead, 1-0, in the 10th minute on a well-placed lob from 19 meters, and then made it 2-0 in the 58th minute on a shot from 15 meters set up perfectly on a crossing pass from Manuel Alvaro de la Torre.

The Greek club cut the lead to 2-1 in the 60th minute when a long crossing pass bounced off an Atletico defender and was headed into the net by Yiannis Tsalouchidis.

Real Madrid 7, Wisconsin 7; In Madison, Wis., David Holmes scored a

Ohio St., UNLV Among The First to Fall in NIT

The Associated Press
Three days after surgery, Joby Wright made Ohio State hurt more than his knee.

Wright, who tore a tendon in his right knee last week during the Mid-American Conference tournament, was ecstatic after Miami of Ohio upset the Buckeyes, 56-53.

Wednesday night in the first round of the NIT, Miami became the first Mid-American Conference school to beat Ohio State in a decade and the first Ohio school to beat them since 1987.

"My rear end was so tight I was breathing out my ears," Wright said of the final hectic minutes.

Jamie Mahaffey scored 16 points and made Miami's last two field goals. Scott Belyeu led Miami (21-8) with 18 points and Matt Kramer added 10. Derek Anderson paced Ohio State (15-13) with 15 points.

Southern Cal 90, No. 25 UNLV 74; In Las Vegas, Lorenzo Orr had 20 points and nine rebounds as Southern Cal beat UNLV, which played without J.R. Ride, the nation's second-leading scorer, who was suspended Tuesday for academic irregularities.

UNLV trailed by as many as 23 points before rallying within seven points with 4 1/2 minutes remaining.

Minnesota 74, Florida 66; In Minneapolis, Voshon Lenard led balanced scoring for the Gophers (18-10) with 15 points. The Gators (16-12) played without top defensive player Hossie Grimes, who broke his left wrist in the SEC tournament.

West Virginia 95, Georgia 84; In Morgantown, W. Va., Perveez Greene scored 22 points and Tracy Shelton added 20 for the Mountaineers (17-11), who led 48-25 early in the second half. Charles Clayton led the Bulldogs (15-14) with 21 points and 16 rebounds.

Wisconsin 73; In Madison, Wis., David Holmes scored a

career-high 32 points, with two free throws with 26 seconds left helping Rice (18-9) survive having wasted a 13-point lead. Michael Finley scored 23 points for Wisconsin (14-14) and broke Danny Jones' single season record of 611 points, set in 1989.

Oklahoma 88, Michigan St. 86; In Norman, Okla., freshman Ryan Minor scored 10 of his career-high 22 points in the final four minutes for the Sooners (20-11). Michigan State (15-13) seemed to have the game in hand after Anthony Miller's second straight follow shot gave it an 80-73 lead with 4:08 left, but wound up losing for the sixth time in seven games.

Mavs Avoid Mark As the Magic Help

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks avoided one of the NBA's most intense moments behind a rookie playing his eighth game and a referee from the minor leagues.

Jim Jackson, signed March 4, scored 17 points and Tim Legler had all 11 of his points in the fourth quarter as the Mavericks snapped a 19-game losing streak with a 102-96 victory over the Orlando Magic.

In winning their fifth game of the season, the Mavs fell one loss short of tying the NBA record for consecutive losses in one season.

The 1972-73 Philadelphia 76ers, the team with the most consecutive losses, had 20 consecutive losses. The overall record losing streak is 24 consecutive defeats by Cleveland over two seasons.

Shaquille O'Neal had 21 points and 12 rebounds for the Magic, but didn't score in the fourth quarter, when his team got three field goals and Dallas rallied from a 73-69 deficit.

Jets Sign Quarterback Esiason

New York Times Service
HEMPSTEAD, New York — It was coincidence, wasn't it, that Boomer Esiason will be playing for the New York Jets of the National Football League next season.

Barclay 24 hours after Reggie White, the most sought after of the new free agents, told the team it would have a better chance to land him by signing Esiason, the club did exactly that Wednesday.

In the biggest trade for an established player since their founding in 1960, the Jets acquired Esiason, one of the NFL's most productive and skilled quarterbacks of the 1980s, from the Cincinnati Bengals.

The Jets immediately announced that Esiason would compete with the incumbent, but inexperienced, Browning Nagle for the top spot. The Jets' former starting quarterback, Ken O'Brien, will be traded, said general manager Dick Steinberg.

However, Esiason, 31, outspoken as always, put the deal in perspective: "They didn't trade for me and my salary to stand on the sidelines. Obviously, you've got to go in and battle for a job, and that seems to be the company line for now. You don't have to be a genius to figure out what that means."

In other words, Esiason expects to start for the club he used to watch when he was a high-school player in East Islip. He will be playing for a coach, Bruce Coslet, who was his mentor as offensive coordinator with the Bengals, and went to Super Bowl XXIII with Esiason during the 1988 season.

To acquire Esiason, the Jets yielded a third-round pick to Cincinnati for this year, and a conditional second-round pick for 1994. The conditional choice kicks in if Esiason performs in half the Jets' plays or starts eight games, and has a quarterback rating of 89.

A few years ago, though, the draft picks would have been a bargain, even with the \$2.7 million Esiason will earn this season. But Esiason failed to put up impressive numbers the last two years and was benched for the final five games of 1992 in favor of a rookie, David Klingler. That came under the Bengals' new head coach, David Shula.

The acquisition of Esiason continued the Jets' strategy of trying to become respectable — immediately. Only a week ago, they dipped into the new free agent market with a potential commitment of \$8.1 million to acquire a pair of 30-something stars, safety Ronnie Lott and defensive end Leonard Marshall.

King Probe Said At Grand Jury

Washington Post Service
WASHINGTON — In the midst of a year-long FBI investigation of boxing promoter Don King, a federal grand jury in New York has begun hearing evidence in recent weeks of alleged criminal wrongdoing by King, according to sources familiar with the probe.

The investigation, headed by the U.S. Attorney's Office in lower Manhattan, appears to center around the business practices of King, who has promoted fights for hundreds of boxers, including Mike Tyson.

Federal authorities recently subpoenaed computer-generated financial records from King's East Side Manhattan headquarters, and at least one employee of Don King Productions, Inc. has appeared before the grand jury in recent days, sources said.

"The investigation had been lumbering along on the back burner for some time but now it's on the middle burner," said a source familiar with parts of the investigation.

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(Continued From Page 4)		
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صكزامن الاصل

OBSERVER

The Time of Heroes

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — Interview with a survivor.

Question: What was your first reaction upon learning that the storm of the century was coming your way?

Answer: I wondered how bad a storm had to be to get a storm-of-the-century rating. Was a storm of the century worse than a mother of all storms? Wouldn't a world-class storm be worse than a storm of the century?

Q. What did you do?

A. I went to the grocery to buy wine.

Q. You ignored warnings from your TV weatherman and your TV doctor not to drink alcohol because it gives you a false sense of warmth when you are trapped outside in a blizzard and in danger of freezing?

A. I never drank wine when trapped outside in a blizzard. I just wanted to be prepared in case howling winds failed to blow the roof off my house, and I found myself trapped snugly inside by a roaring fireplace.

Q. At the grocery did you buy anything but wine?

A. Yes, I bought chopsticks.

Q. You intended to hang laundry on the line despite warnings that the storm of the century was coming? Was this a symbolic act of defiance of nature's whimsical cruelty?

A. I would have bought some food if there'd been any left, but the store was packed with people buying the last of the food and carrying it away by the truckload. When I saw all the shelves bare I thought, "I'm going to starve because of this terrible storm and..."

Q. You had no food left at home?

A. Only a six-week supply.

Q. The spectacle of panic shopping made you panicky too?

A. I wouldn't say panicky, but when I saw all the food shelves empty, then saw the last of the toilet paper and scouring cleanser

being hauled to the checkout counter I thought I'd better buy anything I could find.

Q. Even clothespins?

A. What's so silly about clothespins? If the storm of the century had destroyed the nation's power grids, it would have been the end of electric laundry driers. People would have to go back to the old-fashioned clothesline. With clothespins I'd be in a powerful bargaining position now.

Q. You deny that media panic about an impending calamity affected your ability to think coolly?

A. Cool was my middle name as the calamity approached. Coolly following advice issued from my TV set, I stocked my car with blankets, food, water, flashlights, snow shovels, sand, high-intensity gasoline lanterns and a canary.

Q. A canary?

A. If the canary dies I know the car is filling up with deadly gases, so I can put down the windows to clear the fumes, wrap myself in the blankets and let the water freeze solid, thus providing heavy weapons with which I can bludgeon desperadoes who try to steal my food and flashlights. With the gasoline lantern and snow shovels I'm ready to bury these marauders by lantern light under six feet of snow. The weight of the sand will keep them from floating to the surface.

Q. You were planning a long drive?

A. Are you crazy? The TV was warning everybody not to drive. What's more, I'm a terrible driver even in good weather, and I lack the killer instinct necessary to cope with crazed desperadoes likely to commandeer my car if the storm of the century turns out to be the mother of storms.

Q. Am I correct, then, in saying that it was base and fly-by-night cowardice that accounts for your survival?

A. Plus the wood that made the fire roar, and the wine that was ignored by the locusts at the supermarket.

Q. You felt no shame at all?

A. Not until my Iowa friend Winokur called this morning to say that in Iowa their storms of the week make our storm of the century seem gentle as a summer shower.

New York Times Service

Helen Hayes the Lady, Onstage and Off

By Patt Morrison

Los Angeles Times Service

LOS ANGELES — Helen Hayes, who died Wednesday at the age of 92, was perhaps the last of America's great ladies of the stage. The Washington-born actress, who stood 5-foot-6 and once described herself to a magazine as "a little Irish biddy," managed, without tiger skins or tantrums, to outlast and usually out-act Hollywood's ferociously slinky glamour queens on their own film turf.

Offstage, Hayes's life was every bit as ladylike as her conduct in front of audiences. It was an appeal she was at a loss to explain, except she wrote once, "I sometimes think that I am the triumph of the fanny over the exotic."

And it may have been that familiarity that enabled her to become one of the very few actors to cross comfortably between film and stage, although she always preferred the stage.

With her disciplined stage technique and personal uprightness (she once lost an alphabet game among New York's 1920s literati because she did not know swear words), she was never entirely at ease in Hollywood, whose star system and "arrivance" she came to loathe, especially after the less-than-kind treatment accorded her screenwriter husband, Charles MacArthur.

She nonetheless made more than a score of movies, and beat Hollywood at its own game, winning two Oscars along 40 years apart: as best actress in her first major film role, "The Sin of Madelon Claudet," in 1931, and as best supporting actress in "Airport" in 1970.

In between the films was the stage work that really mattered to her. Her debut was at age 5 in "The Prince Chap" (well attended by her father's Elks club and her mother's bridge group) and her Broadway career began four years later with "Old Dutch."

One of her most memorable stage roles was "Victoria Regina" (a part she acted 969 times, and of which, years later, seeing tapes of her national tour, she remarked scornfully, "Phony, totally overdone... all those Shrine auditoriums where you worked so hard to reach the balcony").

Her long affair with the theater was forced to an end in 1971, during "A Long Day's Journey Into Night." She was allergic, doctors learned, to the dust that clings so densely to theater seats and scenery.

It was a reluctant parting. "For 60 years," she wrote, "I've heard, 'Two minutes, Miss Hayes,' and I've sprinted onto the stage. It's become a reflex. Pavlov's actress, that's me."

She turned zealously to movies and television, bringing to them all ("Love Boat" episode with her adopted son, the actor James MacArthur, a documentary on aging, "The Snoop Sisters" with Mildred



Helen Hayes with Gary Cooper in the 1932 movie "A Farewell to Arms, and on stage in "Victoria Regina" in 1935."

Natwick. Even a Walt Disney trifle like "Herbie Rides Again") the stage dignity even those minor roles could not impede.

With little of the prima donna in her, the self-effacing Hayes — whom one studio mogul found "sexless" — still held serenely the public's heart for years, through the flashy spats and scandals of such glamour queens as Jean Harlow and Joan Crawford. "I had learned to be an actress," Hayes wrote, "I never learned to be a star."

Her "only rebellion and a most unlikely change of script" was her marriage to the wayward, hard-drinking, quicksilver, witty, divorced journalist-playwright MacArthur, who with Ben Hecht co-authored "The Front Page."

It was a marriage of opposites that the acridulous critic Alexander Woolcott described as "some chintz curtains on the lip of Vesuvius and call it home."

The 28-year marriage that ended with MacArthur's death in 1956 was a warp and woof of contradictions that made the fabric of their lives together so strong. "He saw the woman lurking in the girl," she wrote. "It was Charlie who gave my life reality, who handed me my sovereignty, the identity that completed my education as an actress and began it as a woman." It

was a marriage "crammed with abysmal moments and glorious hours."

The story of their first meeting has become a piece of Americana. It was at a party and Irving Berlin was playing the piano with one finger. "The most beautiful young man" Hayes said she had ever seen, walked up and asked, "Do you want a yank?" As MacArthur poured them into her trembling hands, he added, "I wish they were emeralds."

Over the years that line dogged them everywhere — including a 10th anniversary dinner where a bowl of green-tinted peanuts was set at their table. It all so depressed MacArthur that, returning from World War II, he dumped a bag of emeralds in her lap and announced: "I wish they were peanuts."

At another party, determined to impress her husband's clever friends, she took a deep breath and declared, "Anyone who wants my piano is willing to it," and after a profound pause, the playwright George S. Kaufman, who had co-authored "The Ladies for Hayes, said, "That's very seldom of you, Helen."

She could not even be indignant very effectively. On the set of "Arrowsmith," the director John Ford yelled, "Get on that set and stick to your acting — such as

it is!" Her rage was huge, and she drew herself up haughtily and said, "I am not accustomed to being spoken to in that manner" — to the gasps of everyone.

After the death of her only daughter, Mary, of polio in 1949 and MacArthur's in 1956, Hayes ended her "painful exile" and returned happily to the Catholic fold she had left just as happily to marry MacArthur, a divorced man. It seemed, she wrote, "that it was going to have to take the whole Roman Catholic Church to replace him."

As her zest for acting leveled off, she was awarded the oldest Roman Catholic honor in America, the Letaure (rejoice) Medal at the University of Notre Dame, presented in 1979.

The woman who called herself a "fighter" chaired groups combating polio. "Jonas Salk told me I was one of the biggest assets he had in getting his vaccine to the world," she told a magazine interviewer.

In 1987 she told an audience of health-care workers that she had come in at the turn of one century, and had no plans to leave until the turn of another. And she was finding in old age its own rewards.

"Strangers on the street say I'm an inspiration to them... Youth and middle age are much harder."

PEOPLE

Trading on Royalty: Scandal in the Cards

Trade you a Charles for two Ferris? A Dallas entrepreneur has picked up on the mania for royal paraphernalia and is putting out royal trading cards. Beginning next week Victor Shaffer's 110-card set will be available in the United States, Canada and Britain. The collection includes tabloid-style headlines and photos along with spicy summaries by the gossip columnist Liz Smith. Sets include "Scandals," with details of high living, rumored love affairs and marital turmoil, and "Fashion," a photographic essay showcasing Princess Diana and the Duchess of York. Shaffer's target audience? Women between 18 and 54, a group that buys the bulk of supermarket tabloids but is almost nonexistent in the trading card market.

Although he never applied for the job, the conservative firebrand Ronald Limbaugh has been named unofficial spokesman for the Great American Meatout, the day Americans are asked to skip eating meat for a day. Meatout National said Limbaugh, who routinely lambasts the event on his national show, was chosen because he has done more to publicize the event than anyone else.

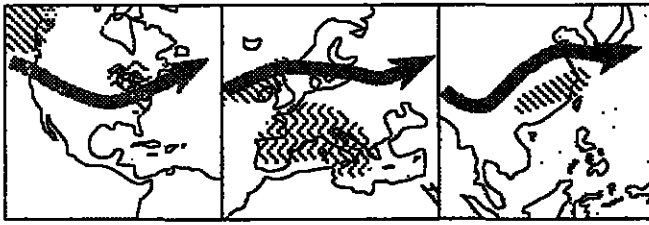
Clint Eastwood says he began carrying a handgun after a tabloid ran a phony story declaring that a neo-Nazi group had put a \$100,000 price on his head. "I stayed armed most of the time," the actor-director testified at a hearing for Antonio Castro Jr. and his wife, Resma, who have pleaded guilty to fraud charges in involving stories they sold to the Globe and other supermarket tabloids. Eastwood said he received telephone threats after the article was published in January 1990.

The German writer Günter Grass has received the Hidalgo Prize from a Spanish Gypsy group. The National Association of Gypsy Presence gave the award in recognition of Grass's unswerving defense of the rights of minority groups. The Spanish anthropologist Tomás Calvo Baeza was also honored.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED Appears on Pages 4, 7 & 8

WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday



Europe: High 18-24, Low 7-14... Asia: High 23-31, Low 15-23... Africa: High 27-34, Low 18-26... North America: High 18-24, Low 7-14... Latin America: High 23-31, Low 15-23... Oceania: High 23-31, Low 15-23...

CROSSWORD

Across: 1 Weak, dull person... Down: 1 Baba... 2 Type of type...

Down: 1 Baba... 2 Type of type...

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

BOOKS

THE FOUR SONYAS

By Vladimir Paral. 391 pages. \$22.95.

CATAPULT

By Vladimir Paral. Both translated from the Czech by William Harkins. 340 pages. Paperback, \$10.95. Both published by Catbird Press.

Reviewed by Richard Lourie

A READER opening either of these two novels might well expect descriptions of packed buses and long lines, the typically Czech aromas of cabbage and despair. Vladimir Paral's prose is, however, more redolent of cuisine and amour and resembles not

reality except for that of feelings. The world his prose creates is an amusement park of the psyche where there is ride after exhilarating ride, some through dark tunnels, others looping the loops of light and delight.

Both of these books, jauntily translated by William Harkins, are preposterous comedies of rampant desire. In "Catapult," when a young married engineer becomes involved with seven women by answering personals, an erotic dream come true turns into a nightmare. He promises to marry them all, going so far as to accept employment in their vicinity and to rent an apartment with each. He dashes madly from one to the other — a master of train timetables, he rarely misses a connection. But time, and seven women, are pressing on him to act. "The greatest torment is not

to be able to decide, but if deciding fetters one so isn't that torment one's last remaining liberty..."

Liberty becomes torment in Paral's world, and torment liberty. Everything there is in a bright liquid flux, an effect Paral achieves both by what he says and how he says it. Scenes with the seven women are sometimes intercut so quickly that the reader isn't sure which woman the hero is with, a sly trick to make the hero's own confusions contagious. Paral keeps switching the narrative point of view in a maddening dizziness of pronouns. T

The hero of "Catapult" attempts to interest several men in his wife, so that he can leave her with the least possible guilt. It is only here that Czech reality intrudes — the housing shortage is so severe that a woman's charms are best portrayed

in terms of the real estate that comes with her.

Paral creates a world, like that of dreams, where the most banal and fantastical elements blend harmoniously so that we both recognize the hero's life as highly improbable and also accept his emotions as real and legitimate, and either laugh or wince depending on our degree of identification. The suspense, the cessation of all storytelling, is generated by the hero's predicament and his need finally to choose. The magic of Paral's art is that while tickling us to laugh at his hero, he somehow makes his fate a matter of utmost importance.

"The Four Sonyas" is an erotic picaresque epic that recounts the adventures of Sonya Cebova, who is not one woman but four. There is the "ordinary Sonya," a young, stunningly beautiful orphan who

has become the oppressed servant in the inn of some distant and hilariously ludicrous relatives. "Besides the ordinary Sonya I am also Sonya Marie (quiet, gentle, defenseless, and happily subservient), next Sonya-Marikka (provocative, bold, risk-taking, wild) and then Antonia (she always tells the unpleasant part of the truth). And Of the two books, "The Four Sonyas," is in my opinion, the better. Paral's descriptive gifts are in sharper focus (the strings on a smashed guitar are "dangling like the hair of a hanged hippy") and the perils-of-Pauline story is more engrossing than that of the Pasha of the Personal. In either case, the ride is well worth the ticket.

Richard Lourie, the author of a just-published account of a Russian serial killer, "Hunting the Devil," wrote this for The Washington Post.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

THE title of most-traveled expert undoubtedly belongs to Zia Mahmood of Pakistan and Manhattan, with Martin Hoffman of England in the runner-up position. Among female players, Sabine Zenkel of Chicago seems to have the strongest claim. She represents her native country, Germany, regularly in international competition and was in Europe in January for other tournaments.

On the diagramed deal, Zenkel held the South cards in the final match at the Regional Swiss Team Championship, and landed in a "hopeless" three-no-trump contract after making a light opening contract bid. She would have failed by four tricks if the defenders had surrendered a spade trick while retaining the king in the East hand.

BRIDGE

But West led a low spade rather than the ace, and East put up the king, killing the defensive prospects in that suit.

A diamond shift at the second trick would have resulted in at least a three-trick defeat, but East continued with a spade. West took the ace and the defense had its last chance: A diamond shift was still essential.

When West woodenly played a third spade, South seized her opportunity. She won the queen and led the club king. West was forced to hold up his ace, and South carefully cashed dummy's heart winners to deplete West of exit cards. She then led a club to the queen and West was helpless. The club suit could not now be shut out, since the diamond queen was an entry if East led that suit. Making three no-trump gained

BRIDGE

11imps for Zenkel's team, for in the replay North played in three hearts, failing by three tricks.

Bridge hand diagram showing cards in North and South hands, and a bidding table.

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Table listing international telephone numbers for various countries including Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Czech Rep., Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, and USA.

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